

GENERAL LIBRARY,  
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THE

# Library Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

## Library Economy and Bibliography

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NOVEMBER, 1901.

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**1856-1901.**

# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 26.

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THE plan for printed catalog cards reaches its final culmination in the comprehensive scheme announced by the Library of Congress in its two circulars. In the hands of Mr. Putnam the plan has reached a development far beyond what was at first projected and quite beyond the possibilities of the A. L. A. Publishing Board, so that the library interest is to be doubly congratulated on the fact that the national library has at last undertaken its proper work as a national center of co-operation in this important field. Not only current copyright books, but the miscellaneous accessions to the library and special departments as they are reclassified, will be represented by cards, purchasable by all libraries at the very moderate price of two cents for the initial card and one-half cent or four-tenths of a cent for duplicates, according as they are ordered after or before printing. These prices are provisional ones, based on the authority given by the printing act to sell government publications at the cost of manufacture, plus ten per cent. The fact that this card work must be done for the library itself removes from consideration the main difficulty before the plan as considered by the Publishing Board, and gives libraries the best results at the lowest cost. There should be special appreciation of the prompt willingness on the part of the authorities of the national library to conform its practice to the requirements of libraries in general, as formulated by the American Library Association. The result is a long step forward in library development.

As newly-published books are the chief consumption of most libraries, the prices of new publications are of vital importance, and every library is interested in noting how the "net" plan of the publishers works out in practice. The publishers' proposals were made in a broad and liberal spirit at the A. L. A. conference, and while it was thought that the new plan might somewhat increase the cost of books to libraries, yet if this ad-

vance were small there might be compensating advantages. Mr. Wellman's letter, elsewhere in this issue, is one of several indications that the subject should receive the prompt attention of the Committee on Relations with the Book Trade which was provided for at Waukesha, and of which Mr. W. T. Peoples, of the New York Mercantile Library, has been wisely made chairman, as representing a large purchasing interest at the publishing center. It has been generally understood that the publishers did not expect to make the new plan a means of increasing their own returns, except so far as it might promote a wider sale of books, but were endeavoring chiefly to restore the bookstore part of the machinery of book distribution, of which the libraries form the complement. As large and regular buyers, libraries are entitled to the best terms practicable, and as the actual prices to libraries are based upon "net" publishing prices, librarians should be on the alert to see that these are really on the reduced basis.

THE death of Edward Capen on his eightieth birthday, October 20, recalls the striking progress in library development which has taken place within the span of a single life. Mr. Capen was the first librarian of the Boston Public Library, in its humble beginnings, in comparison with which the present Haverhill Library, of which he was librarian emeritus at the time of his death, would probably seem a great institution. The names of Charles C. Jewett, Justin Winsor, Mellen Chamberlin, Herbert Putnam, and now by James L. Whitney, his successors, suggest how to the original conception of the librarian's function as a keeper of books were added, as library interests developed, the qualities of scholarship, executive ability, and bibliographical skill, until the foremost libraries now require the ablest men in the community for their full development. Mr. Capen is held in affectionate remembrance by those who have memory of the earlier days of the library interests in this country.

## Communications.

## ANNE MANNING — A REPLY.

"CATALOGER" will find an account of Miss Manning in the introduction of the 1896 edition of the "Household of Sir Thomas More," published by Scribner's Sons. It there states that Miss Manning never married.  
F. B. BIGELOW.

NEW YORK SOCIETY LIBRARY.

## INFORMATION WANTED.

THE undersigned will be grateful to any reader of the LIBRARY JOURNAL who can aid him in locating a copy of the following book: J. Carpentier, *Histoire généalogique de la très-ancienne et très-noble famille de Herlin*. Leyde, 1669, folio. W. J. JAMES.  
WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, }  
Middletown, Ct. }

## AN INDEX TO RECITATIONS.

AFTER reading Mr. W. Dawson Johnston's instructive article on "Present bibliographical undertakings in the United States," in the September JOURNAL, one can appreciate the immense amount of good such undertakings are calculated to effect for librarians, not less than readers in general. It is to be hoped that the good work will go on, and that humbler subjects, not less important in some cases, will not be neglected. One such which is much needed in any public library is an index to recitations, or "pieces," which are always so eagerly sought after by the pupils of grammar grades. The old, defective Werner's "Dictionary," which, however faulty, was the only thing of the kind, and as such was useful, is now out of print and impossible to obtain, and a complete modern successor to it would be very welcome. H. F. Woods.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, }  
East St. Louis, Ill. }

## TELEPHONES IN LIBRARIES.

IN the *Electrical World and Engineer* of October 26 is an article "The telephone as an information bureau," which is worth noting. It describes how the Cuyahoga Telephone Company of Cleveland put into operation a public information bureau for its subscribers, with a young woman and a reference library as the basis of its work. If telephone companies in a large city can afford to do such things as a commercial venture, why could they not do quite as well to supply libraries in smaller places with a 'phone, in return for the furnishing of such information by the library to their customers? Would not a library thus be enabled to earn its telephone rental, and at the same time be justified in paying more attention to inquiries than is sometimes felt necessary; or would it not be a solution of the difficulty in cases where we refrain from putting in a telephone at all, because of the "bother" it may give owing to just such inquiries?

HENRY J. CARR.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, }  
Scranton, Pa. }

## PROTECTING POOLE INDEX PAGES.

I NOTE Miss L. Ambrose's letter in regard to the wearing out of the preliminary pages of Poole's "Index" (L. J., June, 1901: 316.) In the old Astor Library (before the consolidation) we hit upon the plan of having the binder cover these pages of "Abbreviations, titles and imprints" on both sides with transparent tracing linen, and we have not yet found any reason for abandoning the practice.

FRANK WEITENKAMPF,  
Chief of Shelf Dept.

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY,  
Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. }

## LIBRARY DISCOUNTS AND NET BOOKS.

WHEN the system of net prices for books, with a discount to libraries of only ten per cent., was proposed, librarians were given to understand that the net prices would be approximately 20% less than the old list prices. Thus a book which would formerly have been listed at \$1.50 and sold to libraries for \$1 would under the new plan be listed at \$1.20 net, and would cost the libraries \$1.08. This increase of 8% in the cost, librarians were urged to submit to for the sake of the obsolescent booksellers.

It is unfortunate, then, that while making the price net, many publishers should have neglected to make the corresponding reduction. Although it is difficult, of course, to demonstrate in regard to a given publication that the net price is as high, or nearly as high, as the list price would have been under the old arrangement when 33% discount was allowed to libraries, yet in many instances the fact is plainly apparent.

This opinion is strengthened by examination of recent English books published on this side or imported. For such books the prices used frequently or generally to correspond with the foreign list price, from which a discount of 33% was usually secured by libraries. Of eight similar recent publications chosen at random, in only one instance was the net price less 10% as low as the English list price less one third. In three cases the net prices corresponded closely with the English list prices (none of which were net); while in four instances the American price less the discount was actually higher than the English list price.

Conclusive evidence may be found in many series; e.g., "The great commanders series" formerly published at \$1.50 per volume and costing libraries \$1, while the recent volumes are listed at \$1.50 net and cost libraries \$1.35 per volume.

An increase of 35% in the cost means less than three-quarters as many books. The library which formerly purchased 2000 volumes per year will be able to buy less than 1500. Is not this matter serious enough to demand immediate and vigorous protest?

HILLER C. WELLMAN.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, }  
Brookline, Mass. }

## COMPILING A BIBLIOGRAPHY—I.\*

BY GEORGE WATSON COLE.

WHAT do we mean when we make use of the term bibliography? As here understood, a bibliography is a record, in technical form, of all the literature known to exist upon any specific topic or subject.

"The object of Bibliography," says a writer, well qualified to define that object, "is to bring a book or set of books, in their absence, as much as possible before the student. A perfect bibliography would not only give a full and exact description of a book viewed as just a compound of paper and ink (measurements, number of pages, etc.); but would also, as I hope we are agreed, set before the student so much of the life of a book as would give him, as far as the special object of the bibliography would allow, an idea of the correspondence of the title with the contents, of the plan and arrangement, of the circumstances of production—if they are noteworthy—and, roughly, of the place of the volume in the literature of its subject. This ideal, in which the author is recognized as having claims on our attention, as well as the printer, ought never to be lost sight of, and we should, if our scheme and powers allow us, never rest content with the technical description only." (Madan's "On method in bibliography.")

The compilation of a bibliography is a subject which may be considered from two points of view; the theoretical and the practical. From either standpoint it bristles with technicalities and difficulties and it is quite unlikely that what I may have to say upon it will prove of general interest. While it is true that it appeals to but few minds, it gives me great satisfaction to know that those for whom I am writing are both by experience and training most likely to belong to that small class of which I have just spoken. Some one may ask—why are not library catalogs sufficient for all practical purposes? Why does it become necessary to compile bibliographies and in what respects are they

superior to such catalogs? In reply, it may be justly said, that, for the great mass of people the library catalog answers most inquiries, but for the scholarly student or writer who wishes to know all that can be learned upon any special subject—one, perhaps, to which he proposes to devote months or years of study, as a Bancroft, a Parkman, or a Motley, who deliberately sits down to write the history of a certain epoch or nation—it will at once be perceived that *every* source of information, no matter how trivial or insignificant, should be placed at his disposal. While the example just given may be extreme in its application, the fact remains that there is a large class of writers and readers in search of information upon all conceivable subjects, who wish to pursue the subjects of their search with great thoroughness. Few of these persons have the time or means to travel from library to library, and so familiarize themselves with the resources of the largest libraries in the country, and even if they had, few of the catalogs of these libraries are so constructed as to show all the material upon any given subject which lies hidden in the periodicals, the proceedings of learned societies, and various other compilations, which rest upon their shelves.

The ideal library catalog is that one which shows the entire literary production of every person, and of every work or contribution to every subject in that library, no matter where they may lie hidden. Such a catalog, alas! has but an imaginary existence. If this is true of our largest libraries, which from the very nature of their collections, when compared with the entire product of the world's literary activities, must be pitifully incomplete, where shall we look for anything approaching completeness of record upon any subject, except in a bibliography especially devoted to that subject?

What, therefore, libraries and governments, even, have neglected to accomplish it has fallen upon the shoulders of individuals to do. We, therefore, find many contributing their

Delivered before the Pratt Institute School of Library Training, March 15, 1901.

share toward surveying and mapping out the great field of knowledge, selecting some special portion, and giving us the benefits of their knowledge and researches in the form of bibliographies.

Every bibliographer, while making his investigations should pursue them as if at some future time he intended to write a comprehensive work upon the subject of his labors, and was simply making a preliminary survey and record of the field, with this as his main purpose constantly in view. In this spirit he will most nearly put himself in the position of those who will consult his completed work. The bibliography which fails to most fully record, annotate, and index the literature of its subject in such a manner as to be of the greatest service to the student in any of its various phases, as well as to inform him *where a copy of each individual work may be found*, falls short of the bibliographical ideal.

The saying, that the librarian should know something about everything and everything about something, has passed into a truism. The various demands made upon the librarian of the present day help wonderfully to give him or her some acquaintance with many subjects, or at least the ability to know where information upon them may be found. The very contact with the books which come into a rapidly growing library, is an education in itself, if properly improved, inasmuch as it permits one to taste from many springs of information. After all has been said and done the best fruits of the library are to be found in its catalog. Here is to be found the evidence of the librarian's ability to organize and systematize the mass of information about everything, which has been placed in his charge, and to guide others through its labyrinthian mazes. If the librarian has no clear idea what his library contains how can he expect to be a competent guide to others? The catalog represents in its highest form the something about everything which the librarian should know or his library contain if it is to successfully perform its functions.

But in order to know or learn everything about something it is necessary to follow a more methodical course. While the library catalog may be taken as a type embodying the something about everything, the everything about something is perhaps better exemplified by the bibliography.

Now a bibliography may be made upon any conceivable subject; upon any subject, in fact, upon which a man can write, whether a book, pamphlet, or occasional article. Broadly classed, most printed works are found to be written about persons, places, or things, or take various literary forms such as poetry, essays, the drama, etc. Probably there is no one subject around which literature more naturally groups itself than that of locality or place. As my experience in bibliographical work has been confined mostly to works of this description, whatever I have to say will naturally relate to this phase of the subject. It might almost, with truth, be said that everything centers about some locality.

We are all, more or less, interested in some place, usually the town in which we live. If we are connected with a library, nothing would seem more natural than that we should desire to place upon its shelves all the books and pamphlets, in short everything which can be secured which relates in any way to the city, township, county, or state in which the library is situated. These works, to be useful, must of course be cataloged. Here, then, we have a subject at our very hands, and one most naturally chosen: the formation of a special library and the beginning of a bibliography. Here, too, is an incentive to activity in making both the collection and the record as full and complete as possible. Again, we here have all the most favoring conditions for successfully carrying out such an enterprise. Many persons are already, or may easily be made, interested in the work. Still, again, no place is so likely to contain the materials we are in search of as the place concerning which this literature has been written. Should a house to house search be made, it cannot but be rewarded with many precious discoveries. And just here it may be best to call attention to what should be looked for in collecting material for a local bibliography.

1. Printed works—the contents of which relate exclusively to the locality chosen or to any part of it.
2. Printed works which contain a substantive and important reference to the locality chosen or to any part of it.
3. Biographies of the inhabitants of the locality chosen.
4. Locally printed works.

5. Works written by the inhabitants of the locality chosen.
6. Speeches or sermons on general subjects delivered within the locality chosen.
7. Prints.
8. Maps.
9. Manuscripts.

This list I have taken from F. A. Hyett's paper on "County bibliographies," which was read before the Bibliographical Society of London, March 18, 1895, and is to be found in the Proceedings of that Society, vol 3, pt. 1, p. 27-40. I would strongly advise any one who contemplates doing anything in local bibliography to read this paper before beginning his work. Another article by F. Madan, entitled "What to aim at in local bibliography," in the *Library Chronicle*, vol. 4 (1887), p. 144-148, will also be found very helpful. Returning to our list; no. 1 may be said to contain not only books about the locality, but also all such pamphlets, articles, etc., in reviews and magazines; papers in the Transactions of societies; as well as all such broadsides and leaflets as are likely to throw any light on the history, description, literature, flora, fauna, or other distinguishing characteristics of the locality chosen. Poetry and fiction, the scene of which is laid within the locality, should also be included.

No. 2 should include all the above, possibly excepting broadsides and leaflets. But it would be well to notice no references which are not of a substantive character, such as separate chapters or parts of a book under a separate heading.

To this list should be added not only local magazines and newspapers but reports of local institutions and societies. Extracts from, or portions of the laws and reports of the greater political departments of the government, as those of the county, state, or federal government, so far as they especially apply or pertain to the locality chosen, should also be included.

The choice of material to be made use of in the various classes I have named—what to include and what to exclude—is far from an easy question to determine. A general rule, however, may be laid down: the smaller the place chosen the greater should be the effort to include everything about it. The papers of Mr. Hyett and Mr. Madan, to which reference has already been made, will

assist one much in coming to a decision in each individual case. The bibliographer should never so far forget himself as to attempt to play at the same time the role of critic and recorder. Mr. Hyett has well said: "Unfortunately, the bibliographer cannot

'Look into the seeds of Time,  
And say which grain will grow and which will not.'  
And however unpalatable it may be to him, he should chronicle the existence of much trash, in order that what may ultimately prove of value may not escape notice."

Before proceeding further I cannot refrain from calling your attention to a very important suggestion made by Mr. Madan in his paper to which reference has already been made. He strongly recommends the librarian "to index, or to get indexed roughly, the best local paper." "References for recent facts are often," he truly remarks, "the very hardest to obtain, and also the most immediately useful; the civic authorities of a place would be most grateful for an index of matters of public interest kept up to date. We should aim at working backwards and forwards each week (say) the current number and at least one back one."

Having selected the place of which we propose to compile a bibliography the first query which confronts us is How shall we make a beginning? How are we to learn what has been written about it? There is perhaps no better way, to begin, than by obtaining the best or, at least, the most comprehensive work upon the subject and reading it carefully through, making notes, (as will hereafter be described,) of every citation or authority that the writer gives. No author, as a rule, attempts to write upon any topic, without first looking up, to a more or less thorough extent, what has already been written upon it. From what he finds he borrows, or adapts, and, if an honest writer, indicates the sources from which he has obtained his information. Consult, also, all the catalogs and bibliographies upon which you can lay your hands. By this means you will soon learn of the most important works which have been written concerning your subject. You may, perhaps, discover that a bibliography of the place has already been compiled and that it would be time and labor thrown away to proceed with your project. Or, again, you may discover that there exists an old bibliography, which

you can supplement and bring down to date, amplifying its scope, if need be, and really making a new work of it. For the encouragement of those desiring to take up this class of work, it may be said that in this country but little thorough work has been accomplished in local bibliography. The field is comparatively unworked, and there still remains much work which ought to be done. For, in the words of Dr. Elliott Coues, in the preface to an excellent special bibliography which he compiled: "Bibliography is never finished and [is] always more or less defective, even on ground long gone over."

There are two methods of compiling a bibliography. The first consists in copying all the titles that can be found in the catalogs of booksellers, libraries, publishers, special bibliographies, subject or local, etc., and arranging them in an orderly manner. At best this class of work savors of Grub-street and is an achievement which the painstaking, accurate, and conscientious bibliographer justly holds in scorn. For when completed, it is but the preliminary work or rough sketch, which he should consider as his starting point. Such a work as I have sketched is more than likely to carry mortifying evidences of its origin. The "pride of accuracy" of which Henry Stevens spoke, has often been brought low even when a most carefully prepared catalog or bibliography has appeared in type. How much greater is likely to be the mortification of the compiler of such a work as we have just described, when it is borne in mind that a bibliography so constructed (though seeming to be a royal road to bibliographical success) not only perpetuates his own errors but adds to them those of the works from which the material has been appropriated.

When I began to compile a bibliography of Bermuda, I decided to include in it the title of no book or article which I had not personally examined. As the subject was one upon which but little had been written, this determination has given me an advantage, which I can recommend to any one who wishes to compile a local bibliography. It gives one an opportunity to examine for one's self everything which comes to hand for references to new and unheard of material, and to see what authorities the various writers have consulted or quoted. By this course one's horizon is constantly extending and he is meeting with references to, or quotations

from books, to which all the catalogs chance will throw in his way will never call his attention.

As I found these references to or quotations from other writers, I carefully copied them upon standard size catalog cards, including all the bibliographical information they gave. Whenever meager, this information was subsequently increased by consulting catalogs, bibliographies or other sources of information for fuller particulars to add to the card. In writing this card I took especial care to name the book or other source from which the entry was made. Experience has taught me that it is also advisable in many cases, to briefly give some idea of what information is to be found in the work cited. This is all the more important, as some time may elapse before the book itself may be placed in your hands; by which time the circumstances under which the card was written or the information which the work you have long sought for is expected to give may have passed completely from your mind. Not always having given the source of the information on the card, I have sometimes found myself puzzled, when the book at last came to be placed in my hands, to know why the card was made, and have had to visit the library a second time, if, as sometimes happened, I did not have my card index with me.

These cards, as may be seen, are to be made from all sources of information, such as catalogs, bibliographies, indexes, citations from books, and from every other conceivable place where information may be picked up, and, best of all, at the very time it strikes the attention. I presume we have all experienced the difficulty of finding some bit of information in the daily paper, which we have desired to refer to again after an interval of two or three days. Much time is wasted in such efforts which would have been saved by the prompt use of a blue pencil. As our work progresses, the spirit of the quest will grow sharper, and we will almost instinctively know where to look for pointers. We shall constantly be on the lookout for a title to add to our preliminary list. Many of these titles when run down will amount to nothing, for we shall naturally add many which arrest our attention in out of the way places in the expectation that they may possibly afford something for our final record. Having begun this preliminary card index,

the next step to be taken is to consider the order of entry and the extent of the information given in the final record.

Cataloging rules for libraries are a series of compromises. The elements of time, space, and expense are factors which, of necessity, have to be taken into account with most libraries in varying degrees, and as a result the library catalog, while serviceable in the time and place for which it is made, is far from being a model to be followed in the kind of work now under consideration. In bibliographical work it should ever be borne in mind, on the one hand, that there are certain elements about a book which are fixed and unchangeable while again there are others which are subject to variation. Among the latter may be mentioned binding and absolute size. From the bibliographer's standpoint a book, in its highest and most complete form, consists simply of the sheets of which it is composed, printed, folded, gathered, stitched, and bound in paper covers, before the binder's guillotine has cut away a particle from its edges. Hence it is that the bibliophile chooses that his books shall be bound with uncut edges, or with the top edge cut away only just enough to permit of its being gilded. When such a view is taken, it necessarily follows that it should be the aim of every bibliographer to so describe a book that it can never, by any possibility, be mistaken for any other book or for any other edition of the same book; a thing which is not so easy to do as at first sight it appears. Professor Augustus De Morgan, the celebrated philosopher and mathematician, in the Preface (p. xiii.) to his bibliography of "Arithmetical books: 1481-1800" (London, 1847), says, "Were I to begin this book again, I would in every instance make a reference to some battered letter, or defect of lineation, or something which would be pretty certain not to recur in any real imprint. Ordinary errata would not be conclusive, for these might be reprinted for want of perceiving the error." Madan's rule of giving the first word of page 11 and occasionally of 101 or 501 seems to my mind to be almost, if not quite as safe a method. (Madan, 1893, p. 96.) This, at first sight, may perhaps seem unduly painstaking, but experience has proved that such is not the case, especially with very old books.

The French have always borne the reputation of being bibliographers *par excellence*.

One reason why this may be so, is that, in France, the great mass of books are published in paper covers with uncut edges; i.e., are folded in the original size of the sheets upon which the book was printed. In this country and England, on the other hand, it is customary for publishers to issue their works bound in cloth, or other material, usually, with the edges trimmed. A book, subject to constant handling and wear, as in our large circulating libraries, is in constant need of rebinding, so that its absolute size is constantly changing each time it passes under the knife of the binder.

A protest occasionally appears in our public prints against the publishing of books or magazines with uncut or untrimmed edges. No bibliophile, no true lover of books, desires them in any other form. In this shape he has the book in all its bibliographical perfection.

If, as we have seen, the size of a book is a changeable quantity, where then can we find something that we can describe which will undergo no change, whatever may have been the vicissitudes through which the book itself has passed? In reply it may be said that the type or letterpress of a book, together with its pagination and signatures and the paper upon which it is printed are its only fixed elements. Bearing this, as it seems to me, vital and at the same time elementary bibliographical point always in view, I have pursued my work as follows: In the case of a book which relates wholly to the subject I am treating, I first exhaust the information given by the title-page and in the exact order in which it is there given. There are only one or two portions of any title-page, which, in my judgment, it is safe to omit. First, the list of titles, etc. (frequently given at wearisome length), which follows an author's name. Even here caution should be taken to omit nothing which shall show that the author is, in an especial sense, an authority upon the subject of which he writes. All information of an extraneous nature had much better be omitted. Secondly, mottoes or quotations which embellish a title-page may be treated in a like manner. Sometimes their appositeness is such that they may well be retained. The lining of titles of old books should be given, say before 1850, and especially of very rare books even if of more recent date.

## "THE SCIENCE OF LIBRARY STATISTICS."

BY FREDERICK J. TEGGART, *Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco, Cal.*

THIS phrase is taken from an editorial in the September number of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*; it is brought forward here for the reason that if by "science" is meant "knowledge duly arranged, and referred to general truths and principles on which it is founded, and from which it is derived," a science of library statistics is not only non-existent but apparently hitherto unthought of.

The editorial alluded to has done a service in once more calling attention to the need of a thorough and comprehensive investigation of the experience of American libraries as revealed in their statistics. During the last twenty-five years there have not been wanting moments when it seemed to some members of the profession that every subject in library economy had been "thrashed out," that all had been said that could be said profitably. And yet those years have been devoted mainly to the purely preliminary process of "getting started," and the literature which has appeared has consisted of suggestions and personal views rather than of contributions to a science. During these years of the "modern library movement" the library profession has been notably enthusiastic in its work and has set the attainment of practical results before the cultivation of professional knowledge; it has gone further and taught that "the great element of success" in library administration, "is the earnest moving spirit which supplies to the institution its life," an effervescent creed which is little likely to provoke the painstaking investigation necessary before a scientific basis of library management can be attained.

It is in keeping with this perfunctory attitude towards professional knowledge that the attention bestowed on library statistics has hitherto been confined to the most obvious phases of the subject. A basis for comparing different institutions was required for encyclopædias and other general sources of information and it was found in the number of volumes which a library contained. This is certainly the most apparent and convenient figure for use as an index of the comparative importance of libraries, and it

is to-day the only form of library statistics in common use.

But while the volumes-number is eminently convenient for the construction of statistical tables, for the purposes of library economy it is of minor interest inasmuch as it conveys no idea of the relative value or character of the contents of a library and leaves one hopelessly in the dark as to the extent of its service to the public. The statistical tables heretofore published have been used, one might venture to say exclusively, as library directories. The volumes-number method in short has contributed to general library information, but it has done nothing directly for the advancement of library science.

Librarians, however, have not remained satisfied with this single basis of comparison. In France and Germany for instance they prefer the manuscripts-number, while in the United States there has been since 1876 a disposition among librarians to concede priority of importance to the institution which gives out for home use the greatest number of books. This circulation-figure is the second of the two methods of library statistics which have been used up to the present.

It is evident that these methods of comparing libraries are simply enumerative and in no degree scientific, indeed so little do they represent that comprehension and understanding of facts which is the preliminary basis of a science, that an agreement as to the essential facts which should be recorded and investigated has not yet been reached. On the other hand it must not be concluded that this blind search for an adequate basis of comparison between libraries has been without its effect in library administration. The preference for the manuscripts-number in Europe has led to the concentration of the attention of librarians upon manuscripts. The preference for the circulation-figure in the United States has led to developments of far reaching importance in American library economy. It is the purpose of this paper to present a preliminary estimate of the extent and significance of these developments.

Speaking of public libraries generally, the

"home circulation" figure is certainly of greater utility as an index for comparison than the volumes-number. That its use has met with opposition both editorials and contributions in the pages of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* will show; but that it is the most acceptable means yet available for comparing the work done in different institutions is shown by the continued importance given it in the reports of every library in the country.

Progress, being largely a matter of competition, implies the contrasting of results, it demands a basis of comparison, what might be called an index of efficiency. As between the volumes-number and the circulation-figure it is evident that the latter is somewhat more comprehensive and to that degree more desirable than the former. Criticism of the use of either of these figures for comparative purposes is based on the fact that they leave out of consideration many important factors in library work. But this criticism, which has been made repeatedly, overlooks the point that such a number is used only as an index of what a particular library is doing and not as a summation of its various activities. Between institutions of the same class such a basis of comparison is equitable, inasmuch as it cannot be assumed to benefit any one at the expense of the others. The real and great defect in the use of any single factor to represent the entire work of an institution lies in the overemphasis laid on this factor by the continued attention which it receives as constituting the basis of competition. The use of the circulation-figure during the last two decades made it inevitable that the competition between libraries should be directed to this one factor in library work. It would be superfluous to introduce proofs of the existence of this competition in circulation among American libraries; it is known to everyone, as are the conditions under which it has been conducted. In short, the desired result has been the greatest possible circulation with the lowest attainable percentage of fiction use.

The particular class of literature upon which men and women to-day are most willing to spend their leisure—prose fiction—has been a much discussed topic among librarians, and no item in library statistics has been more frequently quoted than the percentage of its use. The gist of the discussions and the attention given to its statistics

imply that there is in operation throughout the libraries of this country an active discrimination against fiction reading. There can be no doubt that librarians believe in the existence of this discrimination and in its desirability, that they believe that the use of fiction is being reduced in our public libraries, and that this belief is based upon the statistics given in library reports. It is therefore proper to ask what has been the result of the discrimination against the use of fiction, linked as it has been with the effort to increase circulation as a whole.

To be definite, the net result of the apparent discrimination against fiction in our public libraries has been a great and general increase in its use, and this increase is to be attributed to the methods of the library quite as much as to the desires of the public. The case stands thus—it is desirable to increase the circulation of a library, the most effective means to this end would be to supply unreservedly what the public wants to read and see that the public gets it, notable results may be expected if in addition to efficient service every possible hindrance is removed to the frequent exchange of books by the readers, which means the establishment of numerous points of distribution. But in the report to be made of the year's business it will be necessary, in accordance with the terms of the competition, to show a decrease in the percentage of fiction used as well as an increase in the total circulation. To place any limitation on the use of fiction would defeat the latter purpose without any certainty of effecting the former, hence the only way out of the dilemma is to apply some form of artificial stimulus to increase the non-fiction circulation.

This is just what the American librarian has found it necessary to do; of the means which he has adopted it may be well to mention the more important. A means of the utmost simplicity and one which has been very generally adopted is known as the "two-book system," by which every borrower is accorded the right to draw a second book provided it is from some non-fiction class. It is apparent that if this privilege was generally accepted the fiction circulation would fall below 50 per cent., for the previous non-fiction circulation would remain unaffected. The merit of the system is that it admits of the

greatest possible encouragement of fiction reading, thereby adding to the total circulation, and naturally it appeals to the borrower who will take something (be it cheirography or Christian science, menticulture or cook books) rather than neglect the opportunity.

An earlier method and one which has left its mark on library affairs in the United States, was based on the observation that the problem of decreasing the fiction percentage without limiting its use would be solved if a sufficiently large group of non-fiction using borrowers could be added to the clientele of the library. On this principle was inaugurated about 1880 the method commonly referred to as "co-operation with the schools." This co-operation simply means enlisting the services of the school teachers to promote circulation among the school children; but with all the possibilities which the very idea suggests, the result does not seem to have justified at once the hopes entertained for it, inasmuch as it became necessary to create special privileges without limit to achieve a sufficiently large use of non-fiction literature to affect the statistics.

What this "co-operation" now means in the computation of percentage is apparent when it is observed that teachers are permitted to draw at one time, in some cities forty non-fiction volumes, in others a volume for each pupil in their classes—this for school use; but in addition teachers are allowed to draw extra books for their own use, in some cases without any restriction as to number. The teachers have naturally responded to the treatment and in fact their attitude now appears to be that the library exists as a labor saving device for their benefit; "the librarian *must* know the school, its work, its needs, and what he can do to meet them. He *must* be able to supplement and broaden the work of the teacher" and so forth.

Competition has here led to interesting developments. The age limit for users of the library has been abolished—"the good work cannot begin too early," and so children's toy books now swell the (non-fiction?) circulation statistics, just as kindergarten furniture figures in the expense of administration.

The result of these improvements in library methods has been a very marked and general increase in the total circulation of our public libraries during the last ten years.

The tables in recent library reports show a marked decrease in the percentage of the class denominated "adult" or "prose" fiction; if however to this be added the "juvenile" or "children's" fiction and the fiction in languages other than English, which are classified apart, it will be found that expedients and money have not been able to reduce seriously the fiction percentage, (the average of fifteen to twenty years ago appears to have been about 75%, the average in the libraries using the new methods is about 50%). It is therefore abundantly apparent that under the stimulus provided by the library its patrons are reading much more fiction than before.

So far only the very simplest phases of library statistics have received attention. (Mr. Bostwick's elaboration of class circulation statistics seems to the present writer to be out of the main current of the larger question and more interesting than important.) Originating in the need of a better index of efficiency than the volumes-number supplies, the prominence given the circulation-figure has concentrated the attention of librarians upon this feature of library work, with the result that competition has developed various means for reducing the fiction percentage while increasing the total circulation. But while these innovations have decreased the fiction percentage they have increased the total use of fiction and in addition have exercised an influence on library administration which threatens to usurp the control of our libraries if not to divert them from the original purpose of their foundation. For this latter was certainly neither the supply of indefinitely large quantities of fiction nor the furnishing of free school books.

As has been pointed out above it has been usual so far in discussing libraries to compare different institutions either in regard to their size or the extent of their circulation. As has been pointed out the use of either of these methods of comparison is open to objection, and the concentration of attention upon the use of the library has led to unforeseen results of great importance in library economy. It is clear that in so far as the American librarian has aimed to increase the circulation of his library he has been notably successful, but that in so far as he has purposed to discriminate against the use of fiction he has been equally unsuccessful. To

realize fully what these efforts mean it will now be necessary to take into consideration the expense account.

In any given year a library has a certain total expenditure. Out of this expenditure must first come the expense of running the establishment—caring for its volumes already collected, light, heat, etc. There is then left a certain amount for three purposes—acquiring additions, preparing these for use, and the cost of circulation. It is evident that the first two may be treated as one item inasmuch as the cost of the second will be very nearly proportionate to that of the first, the difference representing the cost of caring for the gifts.

Now supposing that there are no volumes in the library it is manifest there would be no expenditure for circulation, and the expenditure for administration would be minimum, consequently the expenditure for accessions would be maximum. But as the number of volumes increases and circulation grows this expenditure for books will be curtailed by an amount directly proportionate to the circulation, for it seems to be the case that the expense per volume circulated is a fixed sum which does not decrease, as might be supposed, with an increase in the number of books given out. In a growing library with a fixed income the condition of its book fund is that of being diminished by an increasing administration expenditure due to increase of the establishment plus an expenditure of a fixed amount for each volume loaned. To increase the circulation of a library indefinitely therefore means an indefinite decrease in its expenditure for accessions, or of course a proportionate increase of income.

An illustration of this may be given:

	Volumes.	Circulation.	Expenditure —book exp.	Per cent of circulation to vols. in lib.	Cost per vol. circulated.
Minneapolis .	112,000	596,000	\$43,100	5.3	7.2
Cleveland....	130,000	832,000	65,800	5.5	7.9

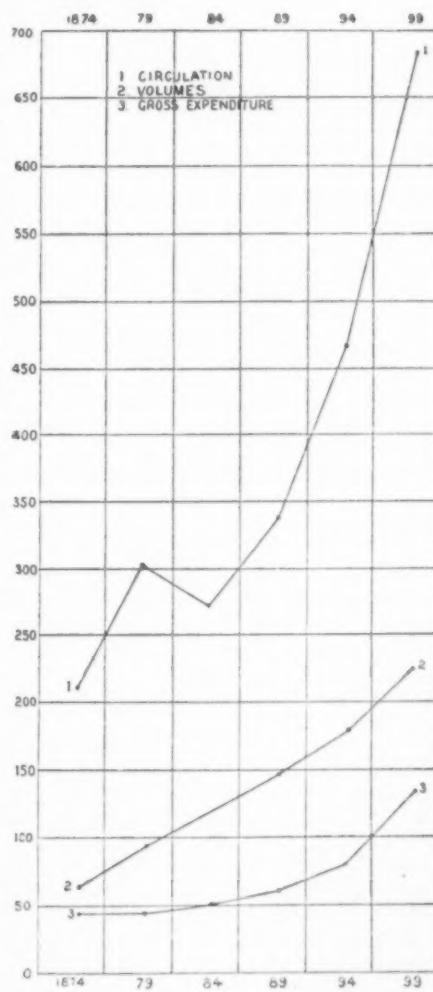
The statistical conditions are here almost identical; the same use is made of the volumes in the library, the expense per volume circulated is the same, but the increase of 40% in circulation is obtained at an increase of 52% in expenditure.

An illustration taken from the history of a particular library through a number of years shows a similar result:

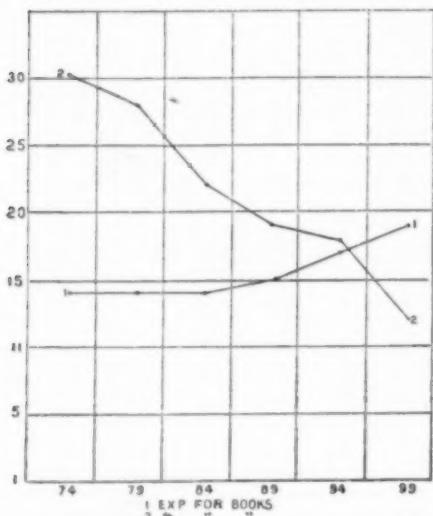
	Cost per vol. circ.	Per cent spent for books.
Chicago { 1890.....	8.	16.6
1899.....	13.2	8.4

During this period the gross circulation increased 100% and the expenditure 206%.

The accompanying diagram gives the result obtained by taking an average of the experience of a number of libraries for the last twenty-five years:



From this it will be seen that the circulation has greatly increased especially during the last decade, as have also the gross expenditure and the number of volumes. In this diagram however the volumes line represents an accumulation, the increment for each period being added to the previous total, while the circulation and expense lines represent the actual figures for each date. To show the true relation of the book increase from date to date another diagram is necessary:



The results here show that while there has been a slight increase in the amount spent for books, the percentage of the total expenditure devoted to books shows a steady and important decline.

Of necessity there is a limit to this comparative increase and decrease, for neither can the circulation be indefinitely increased nor is it possible to carry the decrease in book expenditure to the point of elimination. There must be a point at which the readers of a certain locality can draw no larger number of books, and library experience dictates the addition of new literature if circulation is to be kept up. But before the extreme is reached there is a point beyond which an increase of circulation cannot be forced without an unduly heavy expense, and it would seem that this point has been passed in many of our libraries.

Sufficient has been said to show that the lack of a "science of library statistics" has led to an undue concentration of the attention of librarians on a single aspect of library work; that this competition in circulation has led to important and perhaps undesirable developments in library methods; that notwithstanding the improvisement of new methods for increasing the circulation while decreasing the percentage of fiction use, the latter continues to increase in actual figures; that this competition in circulation has led to a large increase in the cost of library administration and at the same time to a decrease in the percentage of the expenditure devoted to the purchase of books; and that a point has been reached where the actual cost of circulation per volume is increasing.

It is therefore pertinent to ask, is the American librarian in earnest in his theoretical discrimination against the circulation of fiction? Does the theory that a fiction reader will in time be converted from the error of his ways by continuous fiction reading justify the expenditure lavished upon him? Does the theory that the conferring of special privileges upon school teachers and children will in time develop a non-fiction reading class of adults warrant these privileges and the attendant expense? Do our libraries contain all the literature of importance that any student might be expected to require?

## CO-OPERATION AMONG LIBRARY COMMISSIONS

OFFICERS of the library commissions of Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota recently held a meeting at Madison, Wis., to decide upon methods of co-operation.

The problems in the three states are similar and the commission work is carried along on much the same lines. Each commission manages travelling libraries, conducts a summer school for library training, and a clearing house. These three features will be continued separately as before. Co-operation will begin with the printed material. The Iowa commission will print a bimonthly bulletin for the three states; the Wisconsin commission will issue frequent buying lists of new books, and a new edition of the "Suggestive list of books for public libraries"; the Minnesota commission will edit a handbook of practical library work to be written by member of the three commissions. Future work is planned in connection with public documents, short subject bibliographies and printed catalog cards.

## THE DESK ASSISTANT.

THIS subject, recently discussed by the New York State Library Association, is one of the greatest importance to libraries of all kinds, for readers judge a library to a very great extent by the attention given them at the delivery desk.

At the New York meeting it was stated as a fact "that the library school graduate looks down upon the work of the desk assistant and would rather do anything else." While the large majority of library school graduates do not "look down" upon the work at the desk, it is true that they would rather do anything else. The reason for this does not lie in the training at library schools. On the contrary everything is done to encourage and interest the student in his work, which is, after all, the most important in the success of a library. The curriculum at a library school includes a study of the delivery desk and its workings as well as of reference work—a knowledge of which is essential to the usefulness of a desk assistant. In addition, practical work at the desk throughout the year is a requirement. Students often enjoy this branch of the course so much that they devote extra time to practical desk work.

The reason why library school graduates do not care to take positions at the delivery desk is that salaries are lower than those in the cataloging and reference departments. After all that may be said the salary is an important item. Not many persons engage in library work from purely philanthropic motives. That a desire to do good to one's fellowmen is characteristic of the majority of librarians goes without dispute, but every one is ambitious to earn as large a salary as possible. The library school graduate has spent one to five years in time and invested some money in getting a technical training. So long as the standard of salaries for desk work is no higher than that of a shop girl (not so large in many cases as that paid to a cook), so long will the educated, trained candidate aspire to something better, not necessarily in the quality of work but in amount of compensation—despite the efforts of library schools and others to raise the standard of applicants. Besides the salary question, there arise also the difficulties of evening work and longer hours of service which accompany the work at the delivery desk.

It is also true that a considerable amount of the work in the delivery desks of our large libraries is mechanical—a simple stamping of dates and writing of call numbers. In the open shelf library the reader gets his book and in the closed shelf library the book is sent for by pages. In both cases the assistant does not leave her post. Under such circumstances the work becomes machine-like and the assistant has no opportunity to grow. One way to make the desk assistant more competent is to do away with mechanical

systems of charging and not have the reader ask for books by call numbers. This may not be practicable in a large library, unless there are many branches, each of which then becomes a small library. The branch library with open shelves offers opportunities for personal assistance to readers which are not possible in a central library with a large circulation.

In the small library where the assistant must do everything—get the book, charge it to the reader, answer all his questions as far as possible—the work is less mechanical and far better results are obtained. A knowledge of books is acquired, interest in the people and their wants is developed and the library is made attractive and helpful.

In its details of charging books, loan desk work does not require the same amount of technical training that is essential in cataloging. It is in the technical knowledge of books, of the aids and guides, that library school training counts. The chief qualifications of a desk assistant are: *first*, the right personality (which includes courtesy, tact, memory, alertness, enthusiasm), and *second*, a knowledge of books. Such a person is not often obtainable and very rarely at the salary offered for her services. That the personality of the desk assistant counts for most in the eyes of the public is beyond question. Personal qualifications such as those mentioned cannot be taught in library schools.

A knowledge of books is almost equally important. One complaint so often made by the reading public (and of late some criticism of libraries has been made in newspapers and periodicals) is that the assistant at the desk knows so little about books. The popular books of the hour she may know but her knowledge too often goes little farther. The bookish young woman is difficult to find among candidates for library work. A young woman to make desk work successful both for herself and for the public must be so imbued with a love for reading as to be on the search for knowledge in all her spare moments. She must read a little about everything, must be ready to answer intelligently the borrowers' questions about books. To do this requires the sacrifice of considerable time, but the compensation comes in the satisfaction which knowledge and helpfulness to others always brings.

No other work in a library is so interesting and satisfactory as that of the assistant who is brought in contact with the public. If the right person is in such a position, it will be the place where she can become broad-minded, helpful, happy because of the good she can do. And when the library has the right person for this important post, it must offer sufficient inducement for her to remain there. It will find that the extra money needed to keep her is not thrown away, but on the contrary is doing much more for the library than it can in any other way.

ALICE B. KROEGER.

PRINTED CATALOG CARDS FROM  
THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

On Oct. 26 the Library of Congress sent out to nearly 400 libraries in the United States and the 17 state library commissions a circular making announcement of its plans for the issue of printed catalog cards, as follows:

"The Library of Congress is now prepared to furnish a copy or copies of any of the catalog cards (a) which it is currently printing; (b) which it has heretofore printed, so far as copies of these can be supplied from stock.

"The library is currently printing cards for the following classes of accessions: (a) books currently copyrighted under the laws of the United States; (b) miscellaneous material, both current and non-current, so far as acquired by it; (c) the printed books in its present collection as these are reached in the process of reclassification.

"The cards already printed have included the following: (a) copyrighted books since July 1, 1898; (b) miscellaneous accessions since Jan. 1, 1901, and in part since Jan. 1, 1900; (c) the two groups in the existing collection already reclassified, to wit: Bibliography and Library science; American history. (The group next to be dealt with is Political and social science.)

"Samples of the printed cards are enclosed. They are author cards merely. Subject headings will, however, be suggested on cards in the following groups at least: 1. Copyrighted books; 2. Bibliography and Library science; 3. American history; and 4. Each new group as reclassified. In the Library of Congress these subject headings are prefixed, with pen or typewriter, to the author cards in order to form subject cards.

"*Subscription price.*—The charge will be based upon the cost (including handling) of the extra copies, plus 10 per cent. What this charge will be will depend upon the number of copies subscribed for, both in the aggregate and by any particular library. For a single copy of a single card it will not exceed two cents.

"*Orders.*—1. Orders will be accepted in any form which specifically identifies the book (*i.e.*, the card desired). For copyrighted books the most convenient form of order would be a checked copy of the *Weekly Bulletin of Copyright Entries*, containing the titles desired. This *Bulletin* is a publication of the Treasury Department. It is available to any subscriber at a cost of \$5 per year. Subscriptions for it should be addressed to the Treasury Department, at Washington.

"2. *The Publishers' Weekly* contains almost all the titles in the *Bulletin* that would interest the ordinary library, and many of the uncopyrighted books also. Orders may be sent in the form of a checked copy of *The Publishers' Weekly*.

"3. The Library of Congress takes proofs of all its cards upon galley strips. Copies of

these strips will be sent currently to any library ordering, or likely to order, a considerable number of these cards. This distribution will have to be limited, at the beginning at least, to not more than 25 libraries. A set of the strips will, however, be sent currently to every state library commission, with the expectation that the commission will undertake to receive requisitions for cards from the smaller libraries, will consolidate them, and will forward them as orders to the Library of Congress. The cards can then be distributed, either through the state commissions (as would be more convenient to the Library of Congress), or perhaps direct to the particular institution subscribing.

"The galley strips will, of course, contain all the titles for which cards are currently printed.

"On the proofs each title receives a consecutive printer's number. The strips themselves may be cut and the titles desired forwarded as the order, with the designation of the number of copies of each card required. But the order need consist of no more than the numbers of the titles in the printer's series, as indicated upon the slips. Any library not receiving nor having access to the strips, nor choosing to employ as a check-list the *Copyright Bulletin* or *The Publishers' Weekly*, will be at liberty to send its orders in the form of a brief memorandum on sheet or slip. The description must, however, be sufficiently precise for absolute identification, to wit: author, brief title, number of volumes, date, publisher, and place of publication—in short, the imprint. In the case of a current book the information ordinarily sent to a dealer in ordering will be sufficient.

"In fact, libraries desiring these cards, for all or most of their accessions, might do well to forward to the Library of Congress, at the time of placing the order with the dealer, a duplicate (carbon copy) of their order-sheet.

"Orders for cards on sheets must be on sheets of standard letter size; on slips, must be of the size of the 33" catalog card.

Orders should be addressed: The Librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C. (Printed Cards.)

"*Price.*—Under the existing law the Librarian of Congress will act merely as the agent for the Public Printer in receiving orders and subscriptions for the cards. The law requires payment in advance. The normal charge can be determined only after experience. In the meantime, in order to initiate the undertaking, it is necessary to fix a charge which shall serve for the present. The following rates have, for this purpose, been determined upon: (a) For one copy of any card, two cents. (b) For each additional copy, 5-10 of one cent. (c) For each additional copy of any one card where the order is received before the title goes to print, 4-10 of one cent per copy.

"Thus, the cost per title will be: 1. To a

library requiring one copy of a card, two cents; 2. To a library requiring two or more copies, two cents for the first copy; half cent for each additional copy where the order is received subsequent to printing; 3. To a library placing an order for two or more copies of a card, *before printing*, two cents for the first copy and 4-10 of one cent for each additional copy. Fractions of a cent in any final accounting will be reckoned as a whole.

**Payment.**—Subscribers cannot determine whether their orders will reach the library in advance of printing. They cannot, therefore, determine the precise amount to remit with their orders. They may follow one of these courses:

"1. If they remit with each order, the remittance should cover the *higher* charge (two cents for the first copy; 5-10 of one cent for each additional copy). Any balance in their favor will be duly credited.

"2. They may deposit in advance with the Librarian of Congress a lump sum. They will receive a receipt and credit for this; and any work done for them will be debited against it. This method is recommended as decidedly more simple and convenient.

**Remittances.**—Must be by cheque or money order, payable to "The Public Printer, Washington, D. C." But they are to be enclosed to the Librarian of Congress.

The above arrangement is to take the place of any and all arrangements heretofore proposed for the distribution of these cards by the Publishing Board of the American Library Association, in co-operation with the Library of Congress.

"Various details with reference to the distribution can be settled only after information as to what and how many libraries are likely to subscribe."

It is requested that all libraries receiving the circulars respond promptly, stating (a) whether they intend to subscribe and to what probable extent; (b) if they do not intend to subscribe, what modification of the plan proposed would alter their decision. Orders for cards will be received at once.

The general scope of the Library of Congress plans in this direction are set forth in a recent press interview with Mr. Putnam, reprinted and distributed with the circulars. It is, in part, as follows:

"Practically all American libraries to-day have card catalogs. In these every book appears under its author, under the subjects of which it treats, and sometimes under its title if the title differs from the subject. On an average, a book appears in from three to five different places. Now, the cards that libraries have used were in the first instance written; then they came to be typewritten, and in recent years they have in some libraries come to be printed. Printing is possible, of course, only for the larger libraries which are handling a large number of books and making

elaborate catalogs—the New York Public Library prints, the Boston Public Library, the Harvard College Library, the John Crerar of Chicago, and even the Carnegie at Pittsburgh.

The Library of Congress has for some time been printing. It has now within its walls a branch plant from the Government Printing Office.

"Now, the cost of getting any particular book into the card catalog is far greater than the public has any notion of. There are various elements of cost. There is the work of the cataloger, who is an expert; then there is the work of the transcriber if you multiply copies of the card by transcription or by typewriter. If you print, there is the cost of composition and presswork. The stock would cost the same whether you transcribe or print. But the two most costly factors are the work of the cataloger, the expert, and the work of the compositor or transcriber. It has been estimated that on the average the total cost of getting a single book into a library catalog is from 25 to 35 cents. Not a single volume, of course. A book may be in a hundred volumes and yet represent only one title to be handled; it may be in one volume and represent 20 subjects to be handled; but on the average the cost is from 25 to 35 cents for each book, or what the librarians refer to as a 'title.'

"Until now libraries have been in effect duplicating this entire expense—multiplying it, in fact, by each one undertaking to do the whole work individually for itself. There are thousands of books which are acquired by hundreds of libraries—exactly the same books, having the same titles, the same authors and contents, and subject to the same processes. But each library has been doing individually the whole work of cataloging the copies received, putting out the whole expense. Forty years ago Prof. Jewett, then librarian of the Smithsonian Institution, conceived the notion of a central bureau which might attend to these processes, the most expensive part of them, one for all, and make available its results to the various libraries receiving identical material; but the project never came to anything.

"There have been distributions of printed cards on a small scale, or covering special subjects. The United States Department of Agriculture distributes its card indexes to subscribers paying the cost of the extra copies provided for the purpose, and is thus making generally available in convenient form, at a nominal cost, information of great value to investigators. The American Library Association has issued cards indexing certain scientific serials, and even cards cataloging certain current books. But the association has no library nor any corps of expert catalogers. For the material to be cataloged it had to depend upon voluntary gift or loan

from the publishers. The cards issued did not cover enough titles to interest a large library; they covered too many to interest a small one. Yet a subscription had to be required for the entire series. There were never more than 100 subscribers.

"Since the Library of Congress moved into the new building expectation has turned to it. It has already the largest collection of books on the western hemisphere; it is increasing more rapidly than any other single collection. It receives without cost two copies of every book entered for copyright in the United States. It receives these on or before the date of publication, and thus in advance of any other library. It receives an enormous mass of material through exchange. And it is buying a mass of other books, current and non-current, which includes a large portion of material in current acquisition by the other libraries of the United States. It is classifying and cataloging this material on its own account. It is printing the results in the form of cards. It is reclassifying and recataloging its existing collection (excluding duplicates, over 700,000 books and pamphlets), and is printing these results also on cards. These cards are of the standard form, size, type, and method of entry. The library has been in consultation for over a year past with a committee of the American Library Association — a committee of experts — in order to arrive at standards, and we have now arrived at what might be called a standard in all these respects. The card we use is called the 'postal size,' about 3 by 5 inches. There is another size (also standard) in use in some libraries called the "index size," about 2 by 5 inches. The entry on our card is so located, however, that in almost every case the 'postal size' can be cut to the 'index size' without sacrificing any of the text essential to the catalog. What the library prints is an author card. It prints by way of memorandum on the card the subject-headings that it will use on the copies destined for subject cards. The cost to it of the first author card, including the work of the cataloger, is doubtless over 30 cents for each book. But a second copy of the card can be run off for a fraction of a cent.

"Now it is receiving this urgent appeal: To permit other libraries to order extra copies of the cards which will cover books that they are acquiring; just as they are permitted to secure extra copies of the card indexes of the Agricultural Department, or, indeed, of any government publication, paying the cost plus 10 per cent.

"Should this course be adopted, the Library of Congress would be expending no greater expert labor than before; the government would be fully reimbursed for the additional mechanical work and material; and the other libraries of this country would be saved an expense, which in the aggregate is now an

enormous expense, of duplicating, indeed of multiplying many times over, the outlay on the two factors of cost which are the largest factors — the work of the cataloger and the work of the transcriber or compositor. Between 1891 and 1896 there were 7,000,000 volumes added to 4000 libraries in the United States. These may have represented 500,000 different 'books' or 'titles.' The cost to catalog these once, at 35 cents a title, would have been but \$175,000. They were cataloged many times over; how many times can only be guessed, for, of course, some books were acquired by only one library, others by hundreds of libraries. Assuming that on the average each book was cataloged only six times, the total cost to the 4000 libraries was \$1,050,000. Could they have acted as a unit, having the books cataloged and the cards printed at some central bureau and multiplying copies to supply the need of each, the total cost would certainly have been kept within \$300,000. The saving effected during this short period alone would therefore have been two-thirds of the total; on the basis assumed, over \$700,000.

"American instinct and habit revolt against multiplication of brain effort and outlay where a multiplication of results can be achieved by machine. This appears to be a case where it may. Not every result, but results so great as to effect a prodigious saving to the libraries of this country. The Library of Congress cannot ignore the opportunity and the appeal. It is, as I have said, an opportunity unique, presented to no other library, not even to any other national library. For in the United States alone are the library interests active in co-operative effort, urgent to 'standardize' forms, methods, and processes, and willing to make concessions of individual preference and convenience in order to secure results of the greatest general benefit.

"The distribution of cards for the current publications may begin at once. Very likely it will cover also the publications of the present calendar year, so that the undertaking will be coeval with the century. The cards first issued will doubtless be those for the current American copyrighted books.

"The library is now printing cards at the rate of 200 titles a day, or 60,000 a year. The copyrighted books form, of course, but a small fraction of these. Thousands of the others will be of interest to other libraries and sought by them. Those of them which represent books that they possess or are about to acquire will save them expense; those that do not will still contain for them bibliographic information of value. The Library of Congress will itself include a large percentage of the books to be found in any other particular collection in the United States. The remainder will certainly be included in the contents and accessions of a half-dozen of the

other great libraries. Co-operation may enable the titles of these to be brought into the scheme of distribution, so that finally there shall actually be a centralization of this work.

"The possible and actual use of the printed cards is not confined to the main catalogs, nor indeed to the catalogs at all. They can be used in catalogs of special subjects, in the 'shelf list' of the library, and in various different records. Indeed, over a dozen different uses have been planned out for them by librarians, or in part adopted."

The circular and statement from the Library of Congress are accompanied by the following brief notice from the A. L. A. Publishing Board: "The A. L. A. Publishing Board takes pleasure in commanding to the libraries the proposition contained in the accompanying circular from the Library of Congress. That library being now prepared to issue printed cards for new books direct to libraries desiring them, this board is happily relieved of the necessity of further efforts to supply this need, and will turn its attention to other co-operative work."

#### DO READERS READ?

To a recent number of *The Critic* Arthur E. Bostwick contributes an interesting analysis of library circulation statistics, entitled "Do readers read?" He points out that librarians are constantly attempting to answer the question, "What do readers read?"; "but a question that is still more fundamental and quite as vital is: 'Do readers read at all?'"

The results of Mr. Bostwick's investigation of the question are given, in part, as follows: "This is not a paradox, but a common-sense question, as the following suggestive little incident will show. The librarian-in-charge of a crowded branch circulating library in New York City had occasion to talk, not long ago, to one of her 'star' borrowers, a youth who had taken out his two good books a week regularly for nearly a year and whom she had looked upon as a model—so much so that she had never thought it necessary to advise with him regarding his reading. In response to a question this lad made answer somewhat as follows. 'Yes, ma'am, I'm doing pretty well with my reading. I think I should get on nicely if I could only once manage to read a book through; but somehow I can't seem to do it.' This boy had actually taken to his home nearly a hundred books, returning each regularly and borrowing another, without reading to the end of a single one of them.

"That this case is not isolated and abnormal, but is typical of the way in which a large class of readers treat books, there is, as we shall see, only too much reason to believe.

"The facts are peculiarly hard to get at. At first sight there would seem to be no way to find out whether the books that our libra-

ries circulate have been read through from cover to cover, or only half through, or not at all. To be sure, each borrower might be questioned on the subject as he returned his book, but this method would be resented as inquisitorial, and after all there would be no certainty that the data so gathered were true. By counting the stamps on the library book-card or dating-slip we can tell how many times a book has been borrowed, but this gives us no information about whether it has or has not been read. Fortunately for our present purpose, however, many works are published in a series of volumes, each of which is charged separately, and an examination of the different slips will tell us whether or not the whole work has been read through by all those who borrowed it. If, for instance, in a two-volume work each volume has gone out twenty times, twenty borrowers either have read it through or have stopped somewhere in the second volume, while if the first volume is charged twenty times and the second only fourteen, it is certain that six of those who took out the first volume did not get as far as the second. In works of more than two volumes we can tell with still greater accuracy at what point the reader's interest was insufficient to carry him further.

"Such an investigation has been made of all works in more than one volume contained in seven branches of the Brooklyn Public Library, and with very few exceptions it has been found that each successive volume in a series has been read by fewer persons than the one immediately preceding. What is true of books in more than one volume is presumably also true, although perhaps in a less degree, of one-volume works, although we have no means of showing it directly. Among the readers of every book, then, there are generally some who, for one reason or other, do not read it to the end. Our question, 'Do readers read?' is thus answered in the negative for a large number of cases. For some reason or other, many persons begin to read books that fail to hold their attention. In a large number of cases this is doubtless due to a feeling that one 'ought to read' certain books and certain classes of books. A sense of duty carries the reader part way through his task, but he weakens before he has finished it.

"In the following table, the average circulation of first volumes, second volumes, etc., is given for each of seven classes of works. The falling off from volume to volume is noticeable in each class. It is most marked in science, and least so, as might be expected, in fiction. Yet it is remarkable that there should be any falling off at all in fiction. The record shows that the proportion of readers who cannot even read to the end of a novel is relatively large. These are doubtless the good people who speak of Dickens as 'solid reading' and who regard Thackeray with as remote an eye as they do Gibbon."

CLASS	Vol. XII.	Vol. XI.	Vol. X.	Vol. IX.	Vol. VIII.	Vol. VII.	Vol. VI.	Vol. V.	Vol. IV.	Vol. III.	Vol. II.	Vol. I.
History.....	10.1	6.9	4.9	4.4	4.6	4.3	3.5	3.8	3.0	2.8	2.0	3.0
Biography.....	7.2	5.1	3.0	3.3	3.6	3.0	2.3	2.6	2.0	1.8	1.6	2.0
Travel.....	9.2	7.9										
Literature.....	7.3	5.9	3.5	3.8	6.6	4.9	4.0	5.3	5.0	4.9	4.0	5.0
Arts.....	4.7	3.7	3.0									
Sciences.....	5.3	3.7	1.5									
Fiction.....	22.0	18.9	15.8	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0

The figures in the table, as has been stated, are averages, and the number of cases averaged decreases rapidly as we reach the later volumes, because, of course, the number of works that run beyond four or five volumes is relatively small. Hence the figures for the higher volumes are irregular. Any volume may have been withdrawn separately for reference without any intention of reading its companions. Among the earlier volumes such use counts for little, owing to the large number of volumes averaged, while it may and does make the figures for the later volumes irregular. Thus, under History the high number in the twelfth column represents one twelfth volume of Froude, which was taken out three times, evidently for separate reference, as the eleventh was withdrawn but once.

There are of course exceptions to the rule that circulation decreases steadily from volume to volume. Here are a few:

	Vol. I.	Vol. II.	Vol. III.	Vol. IV.
Fiske, "Old Virginia".....	26	24		
Spears, "History of the navy".....	44	39	36	36
Andrews, "Last quarter century".....	8	8		
Kennan, "Siberia".....	15	13		

In the case of two-volume works the interest-sustaining power may not always be as great as would appear, because when the reader desires it, two volumes are given out as one; but the stamps on the dating-slips show that this fact counted for little in the present instances.

## American Library Association.

*President:* Dr. J. S. Billings, New York Public Library.

*Secretary:* F. W. Faxon, 108 Glenway st., Dorchester, Mass.

*Treasurer:* G. M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

## State Library Commissions.

**DELAWARE FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** Cornelius Freear, secretary, State Library, Dover.

Miss Florence Bayard Kane of West Chester, Pa., has been engaged by the Delaware State Library Commission as library organizer. Miss Kane is a niece of the late Senator Thomas F. Bayard and is very popular throughout the state. She was educated for library work at the Drexel Institute and was for sometime connected with the Bryn Mawr College Library.

The State Federation of Women's Clubs of Delaware, through whose influence the free library law was enacted last winter, is in cordial co-operation with the commission. The state has nine or ten travelling libraries of 50 volumes each and the women's clubs — those of Wilmington, Dover and Milford — together have about 20 more little libraries. The clubs will probably loan their libraries to the commission.

Members of the commission have received numerous requests for libraries this fall and two or three towns having subscription libraries are bending their energies to the work of turning them into free libraries. Women's clubs throughout the state are arranging to hold meetings in the interests of library advancement and it is expected that Miss Kane will meet with them to help forward their movements. In spite of much conservatism, there are many hopeful signs and favorable prospects for library advancement in many parts of the state.

G. F. B.

**WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison.

The commission has issued a useful little leaflet suggesting "Fifty books for a child's library," with a few simple hints on children's reading. The list should be helpful to small libraries just developing a children's collection, or for teachers and parents.

The Wisconsin commission has also published in pamphlet form the address on "How may the federation and the commission co-operate to aid our library interests," delivered by F. A. Hutchins before the recent convention of the Wisconsin State Federation of Women's Clubs. The co-operative work undertaken by the commissions of Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, is marked by the issue of a "Buying list of recent books," recommended by the three commissions, compiled and published by the Wisconsin commission.

## State Library Associations.

### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* H. M. Whitney, Blackstone Library, Branford.

*Secretary:* Miss Anna Hadley, Ansonia Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss J. P. Peck, Bronson Library, Waterbury.

Tuesday morning, October 29, members of the Connecticut Library Association journeyed to the little town of Salisbury to hold the fall meeting in the Scoville Memorial Library. The morning hours were devoted to the library building, but soon after luncheon those present, together with a great many townspeople, gathered in the assembly hall where Rev. John Calvin Goddard welcomed the association in the name of the trustees of the library. The board of trustees of the Scoville Memorial Library sets apart each year one day which is called "library day," when it receives friends of the library and furnishes a literary and musical program for the entertainment of its guests. This year October 29 was named as "library day" and the members of the Connecticut Library Association became guests of honor. The musical program, conducted by Mr. Elisha Chapin and Miss Chapin proved a rare treat, while Dr. Joseph Anderson of Waterbury in his address entitled "The preservation of the beautiful in nature and life" gave his hearers many suggestive as well as beautiful and inspiring thoughts. Miss Dotha Stone Pinneo gave two of her "True stories"—"Black Philip" and "The Colorado girl"—in her usual bright and captivating manner.

Afternoon tea was served at five, after which guests retired to the homes in which they were to be entertained for the night. At eight o'clock members reassembled at the library and the regular session of the association was opened with the president, H. M. Whitney, in the chair. After routine business had been transacted, those present listened to a paper by Mrs. Agnes Hills of the Bridgeport Public Library, "The public library and the people" in which the librarian and the school teacher of the present day were roundly scored.

Mrs. Hills' paper presented many of the superficialities found in methods of "popularizing" the library and forcing the reading habit, and set forth, by implication at least, the advantages of making haste slowly in any field of work. Miss Grace Warner had prepared a paper on "Architecture and its message," which was read in her absence by Miss Alice T. Cummings, of the Hartford Public Library. Miss Warner traced through architecture the development of a period, a nation, a race.

During the session Mr. and Miss Chapin entertained the audience with most delightful musical selections.

The following morning at 9.30 the second

session was opened by Miss Helen Sperry of the Bronson Library, Waterbury, who gave a very pleasing sketch of the trip to Waukesha and return, outlining the work of the A. L. A. giving most clearly reasons for becoming members of the association and citing the advantages and influence of attending, if possible, the yearly conferences.

Mr. George Stockwell, of the Westfield (Mass.) Athenaeum, followed with a paper, "The library institute," in which he told the association of the new work undertaken this year by the Western Massachusetts Library Club by which the members hope to become more intimately related with the small libraries of the western portion of their state, and by so doing to raise the general standard of those libraries. Mr. Stockwell spoke of libraries depending upon yearly appropriations of \$5 for the purchase of books, of the expense and time for attending regular library meetings—problems which confront the librarians of many such libraries, and of the club's desire of taking the meetings to the libraries, so to speak. On holding an institute in one of a group of small towns, one of the officers of the club visits the locality, and by talking with library officials, school teachers and prominent men of the town in question and its neighbors arouses a personal interest in the coming Institute. Programs are prepared which shall interest not only the librarians but the schools and the people. In one such town depending upon a five dollar yearly appropriation, the dinner served the visitors attending a recent institute netted the library some \$16 for the purchase of books. Three institutes in the spring and three in the fall are of benefit to at least 30 towns. At the close of his interesting paper, Mr. Stockwell asked for the co-operation of the Connecticut Library Association in work along the western borders of the states. A motion was immediately made and carried to that effect.

Miss Caroline M. Hewins then gave her paper, read at the A. L. A. meeting, entitled "Book reviews, book lists and articles on children's reading—are they of practical value to the children's librarian?", repeated at the request of those not fortunate enough to have heard the paper at Waukesha.

A "Clearing-house half-hour" followed, and as members had come prepared with lists of duplicates of which they would dispose for equally valuable volumes or for cash, one heard of "wants" of various libraries supplemented by lists of works for which certain libraries have no need.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.30 until the winter and annual meeting to be held in February in New Britain.

The members intending to remain in Salisbury until late afternoon trains were treated to most delightful drives about the picturesque town and its adjoining neighbors.

ANNA HADLEY, *Secretary.*

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## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* F. A. Crandall, Office of Documents.*Secretary:* Hugh Williams, Library of Congress.*Treasurer:* F. E. Woodward, 11th and F streets, N. W.

The 57th regular meeting of the District of Columbia Library Association was held at the Columbian University, Wednesday evening, Oct. 9, at 8 o'clock. After the transaction of routine business, brief addresses on their bibliographical experiences during the summer months were made by Col. Weston Flint, of the Washington Public Library; Mr. Theodore L. Cole, of the Statute Law Book Company; Dr. Cyrus Adler, of the Smithsonian Institution; Mr. Edward L. Burchard, of the Coast and Geodetic Survey Library; Dr. Henry Carrington Bolton, and others.

Col. Flint and Mr. Cole spoke of their visit to the American Library Association conference at Waukesha. Col. Flint compared that meeting with those of 20 years ago. He was impressed with the vast amount of work which was now being done through committees, the prominence given to children's libraries, the social features of the meeting and the large number of women attending in proportion to the attendance of men. Mr. Cole was particularly interested in the discussion over the relation of the bookseller to the public library, and that of Mr. Iles and Prof. Ely over the evaluation of literature.

Dr. Bolton told of his experiences in the Biblioteca Nazionale di Brera of Milan, which was the only library he visited during the summer. In making his way through the library he was informed by every employe he met that the building was closed. On reaching the librarian he was served very graciously. He was the only reader in the building at the time.

Dr. Adler told of the progress made in the "International catalogue of scientific literature." The business offices for the catalog are now independent of the Royal Society. It is expected that the first volumes will appear in April. He also described the travelling library established by the institution in the National Zoological Park for the employes of the park, a box of books being sent every month. Miss Irene Gibson then explained the attempts made by various organizations to establish travelling libraries within the city.

Mr. Burchard, who had travelled extensively in Great Britain and Ireland, spoke at some length of the impressions gathered of the library systems, especially of England. He was very much pleased with the union of the public library, museum and art gallery, and advocated its adoption in this country. In London he noticed that there were travelling museums and galleries as well as libra-

ries. He also described the methods employed in caring for and preserving maps in the Hydrographic Office and Ordnance Survey, subjects in which he was especially interested. In regard to the union of the library, museum and gallery, Col. Flint and Dr. Adler held that it did not work to advantage in large cities, but was more practicable in small places.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30. There were 30 present. *HUGH WILLIAMS, Secretary.*

## INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss Jennie Elrod, Public Library, Columbus.*Secretary:* Miss Anna G. Hubbard, State Library, Indianapolis.*Treasurer:* Arthur Cunningham, State Normal School, Terre Haute.

The 10th annual meeting of the Indiana Library Association was held in the State House, Indianapolis, Oct. 29 and 30.

Miss Marilla Waite Freeman, of Michigan City, as president, made a brief opening address in which she called attention to the important results in library matters which had been obtained in the state during the past year. The library commission, both by the travelling libraries and through the efforts of Miss Hoagland, state organizer, has aroused great enthusiasm, and the new library law is promoting the formation of new libraries.

"Recent library legislation in Indiana" was discussed by Hon. E. E. Mummert, of Goshen. He pointed out a few defects in the act which aside from these is considered one of the best library laws in any state. It is believed that the generous donations which so many towns in the state have received from Mr. Carnegie are due to its wise provisions.

Miss Merica Hoagland, state organizer, read a paper upon "Relation of the public library commission to libraries of the state," in which she said as personal work was the greatest assistance therefore the organizer was the greatest help. The week's course of instruction, to follow the meeting of the association, is only open to persons actually engaged in library work and the new librarian is urged to attend a regular library school. Seventeen applied for this course and in May the commission hopes to provide a four weeks' institute, and also hopes to publish bulletins and lists of books at that time. Following the paper a question by Miss Ahern elicited the information that library trustees were admitted to the institute and that one would be in attendance. Mr. Mummert said the greatest impulse for the formation of new libraries comes from a visit by the organizer, pointing out the provisions of the law.

"Co-operation in collecting material," by W. E. Henry, state librarian, showed the clearing house scheme of the state library. He said the libraries of the state are invited to contribute magazines, books and especially any

pamphlets or other material bearing upon the history of the state, and in exchange will be sent numbers, and, in some instances, sets of magazines which they lack. No expense other than the cost of transportation one way is attached to the plan.

The evening session was held in the parlors of the Hotel English when W. A. Millis, superintendent of the Crawfordsville schools, read a very interesting paper on "The library and the school—their relationship." Following this was an informal reception, refreshments being provided by the Bowen-Merrill Co.

Miss Belle S. Hanna, of Greencastle, read a paper Wednesday morning upon "Reference work with children" in which she said that reading is for information, recreation and inspiration, and that reference work pertains to the first. As reading is only a means to an end children should be taught to read topically and to economize time by the use of indexes and other helps.

"Apportionment of time in a small library" was dealt with by Miss Nellie B. Fatout, of Elwood, in part as follows. When there is only one person in a library the work resolves itself into two classes, things requiring immediate attention and those which may be postponed. Under the first come attention to borrowers, the filing of magazines and newspapers, and answering of business correspondence. The second class includes cataloging, book lists, and lists for certain days. Again the work is subdivided under show work and substantials. The first includes picture bulletins, special days, and advertising schemes; the second, wise selection of books, cataloging and classification. The substantials should always have precedence over show work. In the discussion which followed Miss Ahern insisted that a ten hour work day was too long as there was not sufficient time left for recuperation. Mrs. Stein, of Lafayette, objected to depending upon untrained apprentices for assistance, as they were usually placed at the loan desk where the most capable service was required, rather than the least effective.

A paper upon "What critical magazines give the best aid in selecting books" was read by Miss Jennie Elrod, of Columbus. The omission of any mention of books which did not reach a certain standard was criticised as leaving the librarian no guide other than the publisher's notice. Among the magazines mentioned *The Dial*, *The Nation*, and *The New York Times Saturday Review* were most highly recommended. In discussing the paper Mr. Cunningham thought it might be well to add to those mentioned *The Athenaeum* and *Academy*. By inquiry it was found that some library boards in the state would not subscribe to or furnish any critical magazines.

As Miss E. G. Browning of Indianapolis was ill and could not be present, the "Report of the A. L. A. meeting at Waukesha" was given

by Miss M. E. Ahern. She said that the only reason Indiana did not secure this session was because the invitation from Wisconsin was received first. The meeting was the largest ever held, that is of people directly interested in library work. She called upon several persons to express their opinion as to the dominant note in the Waukesha meeting. Among the points mentioned was the hospitality of the Wisconsin people; the cordiality of the A. L. A.; children's work; and the element of self dependence. Miss Ahern closed by saying that the point of view was so enlarged by attending an A. L. A. meeting that life could never be the same afterward.

A "Library building symposium" was the feature of the afternoon session and was very gratifying both in point of interest and attendance, especially by trustees. It was opened by a paper on "Library buildings," by E. N. Lamm, an architect from Cincinnati. In his opinion the best results may be obtained from considering the common people. The location should be in the business portion of the town and if possible have a large lot with good drainage. Select the architect as you would a librarian and by all means avoid competition. One story is usually considered the best, and plan for the public to have direct access to shelves. The greatest economy of administration is obtained from one room with the desk in the center.

Mr. E. E. Mumford followed with an exhibition and description of the plans of the Goshen library building. It is to be 75 x 48 ft. and built of Bedford stone. He also related how they secured their donation from Mr. Carnegie. Mrs. Lura E. Woodworth said the women's clubs of Fort Wayne, with the endorsement of the city officials secured their gift of \$75,000. She also exhibited the plans of the building. Mrs. Sailor, of Elwood, said they secured their donation by the mere expenditure of four cents postage. T. F. Rose, of Muncie, after briefly describing their site and how it was selected introduced their architect, Mr. McHuron, of Fort Wayne, who gave a very interesting talk on library buildings in the eastern cities. He urged simplicity of design both as to architecture and as to the interior arrangements. He also exhibited plans of the Muncie and Elkhart buildings. G. W. Webster, a trustee of Marion, read an instructive paper on the work and plans at that place. They hope to make the library a center for the culture of the county and expect to go before the next legislature with a bill to permit the county to use the library. Mr. Moore, of Marion, also assisted in explaining the plans. Dr. L. O. Malsbury told what they were doing at Peru. Their building will be of Bedford stone. The enthusiasm of this session left no doubt in the minds of those present that the trustees are fully alive to their duties and responsibilities.

"Open shelves" was the subject of a paper

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by Mrs. Ida Gruwell, of Marion. She said free access had increased their circulation very materially, that last year they loaned 50,000 books on 8000 volumes, and that in four years of access to shelves only eight books had been lost.

At the closing session which was held in the evening Miss Jessie Allen, of the Indianapolis Public Library, read a very interesting and instructive paper on "Library work in social settlements." She read letters from various workers in Chicago and elsewhere demonstrating what excellent results had been obtained.

The "Question-box" as conducted by Miss M. E. Ahern proved very interesting, many troublesome points in administration being solved.

Upon a motion by Mr. Henry a committee on architecture which might be consulted as to the essential things which every library building should contain was appointed by Miss Freeman as follows: W. E. Henry, chairman, Miss Merica Hoagland, Mrs. E. C. Earl, Jacob P. Dunn, and Joseph R. Voris.

A committee to consider amendments to the constitution was appointed as follows: Mrs. E. C. Earl, chairman, Arthur Cunningham, Miss Jessie Allen.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Miss Jennie Elrod, Columbus; vice-president, E. E. Mumford, Goshen; secretary, Miss Anna G. Hubbard, State Library; treasurer, Arthur Cunningham, State Normal Library, Terre Haute.

Mrs. Colerick presented the following resolutions of thanks, which were unanimously adopted: to the Bowen-Merrill Co. for their hospitable entertainment; to the local committee, Miss Anna G. Hubbard, Miss E. G. Browning, and Miss Merica Hoagland for their courteous and thoughtful arrangements for the meeting; to the president and other officers for the successful and interesting session, and to Miss M. E. Ahern for helpful suggestions and the keen interest manifested.

JENNIE ELROD, Secretary.

#### IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* F. C. Dawley, Cedar Rapids.

*Secretary:* Miss Margaret Brown, Chariton.

*Treasurer:* W. H. Douglas, Grinnell.

The 12th annual meeting of the Iowa Library Association was held in Burlington, from October 9-11, and proved perhaps the most important and successful in the history of the association. The attendance was large and thoroughly representative, the program proved most interesting, and the whole atmosphere of the meeting was thoroughly stimulating and enjoyable.

Sessions were held in the auditorium of the fine Public Library building, which was in itself a center of interest to the library visitors, and the social features included a delightful reception tendered to the librarians

by Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Crapo, of the library board, an afternoon trip upon the river, and an informal evening reception, on the occasion of Mr. Putnam's address.

The first session was opened at two o'clock on the afternoon of Wednesday, Oct. 9. In the absence of the president, A. P. Fleming, Mrs. H. M. Towner, of Corning, presided, and won praise from the Burlington *Hawkeye*, as "the best chairman who has wielded the gavel in Burlington in many a long day." The address of welcome was delivered by Hon. P. M. Crapo, and the subject of "Library extension" was then considered in three aspects—in state, county, and city, by Johnson Brigham, Miss Alice M. Tyler, and J. M. Brainard, who outlined methods of popularizing library privileges and urged the broadening and deepening of library opportunities. "The child in his kingdom—the library" was the subject of an admirable paper by Miss M. E. Dousman, of the Milwaukee Public Library. Especially suggestive were her views upon the influence of the library book in the home where other books were positively unknown. She developed the fact that the child may be led up to citizenship, to the proper performance of civic duties, through the library. She showed how the fathers and mothers were educated and elevated by the little folks, who were given a broader education at the public library, and laid especial stress upon the fact that the standard of literature for children should be raised; that there should be no cast-iron rules, but that the books should be distributed judiciously by librarians, who are "in touch" with the little folks. Given these conditions, the library is the greatest educator of the time.

"Libraries and schools" were discussed by Miss Emma Fordyce, of Cedar Rapids, who spoke without notes. She said that the common people needed education and especially that best education which looks at the world's wonders through the eyes of a gifted man, and she pointed to that not very distant future when every school house will have its own library, with a gifted and experienced librarian and a collection of good books, forming an educational medium of inestimable value, not merely for scholars, but for all residents of the vicinity.

In the evening a most enjoyable reception was given by Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Crapo at their home, in honor of the Iowa Library Association and of Mr. Putnam, Librarian of Congress.

Thursday morning's session, under the chairmanship of F. C. Dawley, opened with a short business meeting, and appointment of committees. Miss Ella McLoney, of the Des Moines Public Library, read a paper on "The librarian and the public," full of practical advice and common sense. This was followed by an interesting discussion led by Royal Holbrook, of Ottumwa, who pointed out the

difference between librarians and book lovers and the necessity of having the former in the library, that being no place for the mere book lover. He said that fiction was the most dangerous element the library has to contend with and regarded the percentage of fiction issued as a deplorable fact. This is partially due to the reader never having been directed to other lines, and it should be a duty of the librarian to influence readers to other reading. This subject of fiction opened an animated discussion on the good and harm of fiction reading. The themes of much of the fiction should not be sent out by the librarian as educators. Not more than one-fifth of the books in the library should be fiction, and it should be carefully selected. In small libraries the proportion of fiction was much greater. A distinction should be made in the books meant for mature and immature minds.

Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, was then introduced and reported upon the plans for furnishing printed catalog cards through the Library of Congress.

Charles Lawrence Mauran, of St. Louis, followed with an interesting and very comprehensive paper on "The housing of books," speaking from the experience of a practical architect.

The topic, "The library as an intellectual center: obligations of citizens to the library," was introduced by Mrs. H. M. Towner, and further considered by Senator G. M. Titus, of Muscatine, on "Trustees"; Miss Harriett Wood, of Iowa City, on "Women's clubs," and Mrs. Hayners on "Business men."

For the afternoon an excursion on the river had been arranged, which proved most enjoyable; and in the evening a large audience greeted Mr. Putnam, who delivered a stimulating and delightful address on "The book and the people."

The session for Friday morning opened with the presentation of committee reports. A legislative committee was appointed, including F. C. Dawley, chairman; G. M. Titus, of Muscatine, and Mrs. Battis, of Marshalltown. The nominating committee reported the appointment of the following officers for the coming year: Mr. Dawley, president; P. M. Crapo, of Burlington, vice-president; Miss Margaret Brown, of Chariton, secretary; Mr. W. H. Douglas, of Grinnell, treasurer; and on the program committee, Miss Tyler, of Des Moines; Mrs. Battis, of Marshalltown, and Mrs. Towner, of Corning.

Captain Johnson read resolutions of respect regarding the late Hon. Theo. S. Parvin, which were unanimously adopted. It was decided to meet next year at Grinnell. A resolution was passed, approving the plans for a model library building in connection with the Louisiana Purchase exposition to be held at St. Louis.

A committee, including Miss Tyler, Miss Carey, of Burlington, and Miss McLoney, of

Des Moines, was appointed to revise and explain the by-laws of the association.

"College libraries," their management and problems, were discussed in a section meeting, when papers were read on "The machinery of a college library," by Miss Bertha Ridgeway, of Grinnell College Library; and "The college student in his library," by W. H. Douglas, of Grinnell College.

A "Round table of practical work" proved helpful and interesting. The subjects discussed included government documents, newspapers and reports, library hours, charging system and book selection.

A short afternoon session was held, when resolutions of thanks for the many local courtesies were adopted, a paper on "Co-operation among the college libraries of the state" was read by Miss Carpenter, and a "question box" conducted by Miss M. E. Ahern closed the proceedings.

A special meeting of trustees was held, at which was organized a Trustees' Section of the Iowa State Library Association. Mrs. Towner was appointed chairman of the meeting and permanent chairman of the section. Mrs. Van Vechten was appointed secretary of the meeting and permanent secretary of the section. The following resolutions were passed:

"That the state library commission be asked to set aside a corner of the bulletin for matters of special interest to the trustees of public libraries, to be known as the trustees' corner.

"That the state library commission be petitioned to arrange for uniform reports from all public libraries in the state."

Discussions followed on things of interest to the trustees.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Hiller C. Wellman, Public Library, Brookline.

*Secretary:* G. E. Nutting, Public Library, Fitchburg.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theodosia Macurdy, Public Library, Boston.

The fall meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club was held in Boston, Thursday, Oct. 31, in the lecture hall of the Boston Public Library. Mr. Lucius P. Lane, of the Public Library, opened the session at 10 a.m. with a brief résumé of the A. L. A. conference at Waukesha. He was followed by Mr. Otto Fleischner, of the Public Library, who spoke on "Fine arts collections—books and pictures—for small libraries." A mimeograph list of books prepared by Miss Hitchcock, of the fine arts department, was distributed. This list was made up of books which could easily be procured and were comparatively inexpensive. Mr. Fleischner commented at some length on the list, explaining why certain titles were included and others excluded. After explaining the method of cataloging and arranging pictures in the Public Library, he called attention to the method used by the Brookline Public Library as excellent for

small collections, and that of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as best for large collections.

The women's clubs he considered as the best help a library could have in starting such collections, and he approved of the grouping pictures around a place as the Library Art Club has done, having the pictures cover the architecture, sculpture and painting. Travel clubs, too, can help the library. He called attention to the colored photographs (10 x 14 in.) sold by the Detroit Photo Co. at 20 cents, which are good enough for geographical study.

The stereoscopic pictures which are being introduced to the libraries he considered good, but the best way of keeping the pictures has not been solved. This was the subject of some desultory discussion at a later time.

The chief paper of the morning was by Mr. Leon H. Vincent, entitled "A plea for better colloquial English." By way of prefacing his remarks Mr. Vincent stated that physically Americans were the cleanest nation on the face of the earth; we wash everything that is washable and accessible; we are in advance of all other countries in public and home sanitary skill, and we take as much pains in the care of our garments as in the care of our persons; but we are wholly tolerant of all kinds of oddities and vulgarisms in the use of that noble tongue which is one of the greatest gifts of the old world to the new. The protest, therefore, which he set out to make was against the corruption of familiar and colloquial speech by people who ought to know better. Mr. Vincent said, in part: "In America we have many good talkers, but we have no widespread interest in the art of conversation. In at least one nation of Europe (France) there is a healthy condition of mind on this subject, and for 300 years the French have regarded conversation as one of the fine arts; they have reflected on the meaning of words, they have polished their sentences, they have spent time and labor in the practice of the interchange of ideas. We in America have a good deal to learn from the French, for when we can show history like French history, art like French art, or academic influence like that of the Académie Française, a government theatre like theirs, then, and then only, may we cease to criticise a nation from whom we have so much to learn. To be sure, the French know only their own tongue, but they do know how to speak it; but how many Americans know how to speak English?"

"Our indifference in this important matter may be traced to two things, first our passion for novelty, which makes us lose sight of the fine old pieces of English literature, and by not reading the older books we deprive ourselves of a standard; we don't know what is English and what is not. This passion for novelty will be the death of us, for there is nothing we Americans stand so much in fear of as the implication that we are not up to date. Tell us we are wicked, but don't tell

us we are slow. We must be up with the times, wherever the times happen to be. Unless we come in contact daily with the best English, how are we going to know what the best English is? We cannot talk in Addison's phrases, but we must know Addison in order to have a touchstone for the purity of our own phrases.

"Our greatest danger is from hideous new words, recent false coinages, which get into circulation and damage the colloquial language almost irremediably. We do not need more new words. When the chemists discover a new element there must be a verbal symbol to express it; but occasions of such importance are rare. Already the language is incomparably rich in words, yet the most dreadful terms are continually getting into circulation. Why try to invent words we do not need? We ought to avoid those words which stamp us as Americans the moment we go abroad. There are picturesque differences between the mode of speech of different nations which may be tolerated; but when a good word is distorted from its traditional sense it is our duty to protest. Many people cannot end a sentence. They talk on, phrase after phrase, codicil after codicil; nothing is complete, separate, distinct. Let us rid our speech of useless expletives, introductory words, mere stop gaps and verbal paddings. The habit of slovenly speech begets a habit of slovenly thinking; we should do what we can to stem the tidal wave of incorrect, vicious, slangy speech that threatens to engulf us. There is little hope for the English language in America unless the public conscience is aroused. The colleges have little or no apparent influence. The average college-bred man talks no better than any one else. Sometimes he is grammatically vicious and shamefully slangy, and he caps the climax by being proud of the fact. I plead with you in behalf of the traditional English; honor it, love it, protect it; such respect is one form of patriotism. Let us prove our right to the inheritance of this noble English by the use we make of it. This is the least we can do."

The new scheme of discounts as adopted by the Publishers' Association was outlined, and the following were chosen as a committee on the cost of books: Messrs. Gifford, Fleischner, Dana, Jones, Dr. Wire, and Miss Macurdy, chief of the Boston Public Library order department.

Mr. Whitney, of Boston, Mr. Lane, of Harvard, Mr. Gifford of Cambridge, Mr. Bolton, of the Athenaeum, and Mr. Faxon were appointed to take charge of the arrangements for the coming of the A. L. A. next year.

The club endorsed the resolutions adopted by the New York Library Association: "The proposal of the St. Louis Public Library to secure, at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1903, the erection of a model library building, and to place in it a model library, fully equipped and in actual operation, presents an

opportunity never before offered to the librarians of the country to fasten public attention on the free library and its vital relations to the national welfare."

The afternoon session was opened by Mr. C. W. Ayer, of Brockton, who read a paper on "The classification of music." He was followed by Mr. E. B. Hunt, of the Public Library, who told of the arrangement of the Allen Brown collection in the library and explained some of the special points of its dictionary catalog. Each composition is cataloged under its composer, the title and the form in general. Mr. Putnam then read a paper on "Copyright and patent-right—some variances," and ended with a brief statement of the plans of the Library of Congress for the distribution of its catalog cards.

The meeting closed with an announcement by Mr. W. H. Tillinghast that the Massachusetts State Library would soon issue to the public libraries of the state a pamphlet containing the titles of the Massachusetts public documents, 12-volume set, annual reports from the beginning and special reports and papers for 1898-1899, and that the A. L. A. Publishing Board would issue a limited number of sets of cards for the same titles at \$1.75 per set.

#### MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss Alice N. Farr, Public Library, Mankato.

*Secretary:* Miss Clara Baldwin, State Library Commission, Minneapolis.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Lilian G. Tandy, Public Library, Red Wing.

The ninth annual meeting of the Minnesota Library Association was held at Stillwater, Oct. 14 and 15. It was the most satisfactory meeting ever held by the association. The meetings were held in the high school auditorium. The first session was opened at 2 p.m. on Monday, when after a few words of greeting, Warren Upham, secretary of the State Historical Society, read a paper on "Our state publications." On behalf of the state library commission it was announced that the commission had agreed to prepare a pamphlet list of these publications. Mrs. C. M. Beals, of the St. Paul Public Library, spoke on "Reference work"; and Willett M. Hays, of the University of Minnesota, presented the subject "How the library can aid agriculture." In the discussion that followed the general opinion seemed to be that in view of the vast agricultural resources of the state effort should be made to include in the public libraries more literature dealing with agriculture. A resolution was passed, favoring the bill now pending in Congress for reduced postage rates on library books circulated in rural communities.

Other papers read were: "Beginnings of an art library," by Miss Katherine Patten; "The children's department," by Mrs. A. C. Ellison; and "Work with the children," by Miss Agnes Libby.

An evening session was held when pleasing musical selections were rendered, and Willis M. West, of the University of Minnesota, delivered a lecture on "History and literature." At the morning session of Tuesday, papers were read on "Selection and purchase of books," by Miss Jessie McMillan, and "Library architecture," by Mrs. Marie E. Brick, of the St. Cloud Public Library. There was a short business meeting, and a brisk "round table" discussion of technical questions was held. Officers were elected as follows: President, Miss Alice N. Farr; vice-president, Miss Minnie McGraw; secretary, Miss Clara Baldwin; treasurer, Mrs. Lilian G. Tandy.

#### MISSOURI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. C. W. Whitney, Public Library, Kansas City.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* J. T. Gerould, University of Missouri, Columbia.

The second annual meeting of the Missouri Library Association was held in Kansas City, Mo., on the 24th and 25th of October. Invitations had been sent out to all the librarians in the states of Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Texas and Oklahoma, and a considerable number of delegates were present from the three first mentioned. About 50 people came from outside of the city, and a most instructive meeting was held. The keynote of the program was the small library in the small town, its organization and equipment. Special attention was given to the relation existing between the library and the school.

The first session opened on the morning of Oct. 24 by an address of welcome delivered by General Milton Moore, of Kansas City. Mr. Frederick M. Crunden, the president of the association, responded with a few words, and then called upon the Hon. J. V. C. Karnes to tell something of the history of the Kansas City Public Library. The rest of the morning was spent in the inspection of the library building and in social gatherings. The afternoon session was opened by a paper read by Miss Buchanan, librarian of the Pittsburg (Kan.) Library, on the subject "The organization of a town library." Miss Thompson, the librarian of the Public Library at Jefferson City, Mo., led the discussion, which was participated in by a large number of those present. At this point a resolution was introduced asking for the co-operation of the Federation of Women's Clubs, then in session at St. Joseph, in an effort to secure a state library commission. After the passage of this resolution the regular program was resumed by a paper on "The qualifications and duties of a librarian," by Miss Julia Walsh, librarian of the Public Library, Ottawa, Kan. Mr. James I. Wyer, of the University Library, Lincoln, Neb., opened the discussion, dealing with the question from the standpoint of a college librarian. One of the most interesting discussions of the entire meeting was one

brought out by a paper read by Miss Julia Krug, superintendent of the children's department of the St. Louis Public Library, on "The children's department to awaken public interest." She was followed by Miss Helen Read, of the children's department at the Kansas City Public Library, and by several others. The question of "The reference department as a foundation for the development of a library" was treated by Rev. Henry Hopkins, of Kansas City, and "The best form of catalog for the public library" was discussed by Miss Smith, of Sedalia, and Miss Phelps, of the University of Missouri Library.

In the evening a reception was tendered to the visiting delegates by the people of Kansas City, in the Public Library building, and the delegates had an opportunity of meeting in a very pleasant way those who are most interested in the library work of the city, and who had been instrumental in showing so many courtesies to them.

The third session, Friday morning, was perhaps the most instructive of any during the meeting. Prof. J. H. Hill, of Emporia, Kan., opened it with a paper on "The school and library." He was followed by Hon. J. V. C. Karnes and Superintendent J. M. Greenwood, of Kansas City. Mr. Edward P. Wilder, of Topeka, Kan., and Mr. Purd B. Wright, librarian of the St. Joseph Public Library, then discussed "Popularization of the library." "Branch libraries and delivery stations" were considered in a paper read by Miss Edith Tobitt, librarian of the Public Library of Omaha, Neb., and the discussion was opened by Mr. Crunden. The session was terminated by a question box, conducted by Mr. Crunden, and the business meeting of the Missouri association. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Carrie Westlake Whitney, librarian Public Library, Kansas City; 1st vice-president, Miss Faith E. Smith, librarian of the Public Library, Sedalia; 2d vice-president, Miss Sula Wagner, Public Library, St. Louis; secretary and treasurer, J. T. Gerould, State University Library, Columbia.

The committee appointed at the last meeting of the association to prepare and secure the passage of a bill calling for a state library commission, reported that the bill introduced at their instance had failed to pass. The committee was continued and instructed to co-operate with other committees to be appointed for this purpose by other organizations.

A resolution was passed endorsing the project to locate on the grounds of the Louisiana Purchase Exhibition a model library, complete in arrangement, equipment and books. A committee was appointed to secure the co-operation of the friends of public libraries in an effort to secure this building.

It was also resolved that the state teachers' association be asked to consider at their next meeting the subject of the relation between

the school and the library, and also that their co-operation be requested in the matter of a state library commission.

A resolution of thanks for the many courtesies extended by the people of Kansas City was also passed.

After deciding that the next meeting of the association should be held at Sedalia, the convention adjourned.

During the afternoon the visiting delegates were entertained by a very enjoyable tally-ho drive about the city.

J. T. GEROULD, *Secretary.*

#### NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* S. G. Ayres, Drew Theological Seminary Library, Madison.

*Secretary:* Miss Bertha S. Wildman, Public Library, Madison.

*Treasurer:* Miss Sarah S. Oddie, Public Library, East Orange.

The 12th annual meeting of the New Jersey Library Association was held at the Newark Free Public Library, on Wednesday, Oct. 30, 1901. The morning session opened at 10.30, A. E. Bostwick, vice-president, in the chair. After a few words of welcome from Miss Winser, acting-librarian of the Newark library, and response by Mr. Bostwick, the following program was presented: "The library and the child," by Miss S. Augusta Smith, Montclair, N. J.; "Books for young readers," by Everett T. Tomlinson, member of the state library commission; address on books by Rt. Rev. Mgr. G. H. Doane; and presentation and discussion of the tentative "List of books for New Jersey libraries," prepared by the state library commission, opened by Miss Wildman.

Luncheon was served in the empty art gallery on the top floor of the library, and after lunch the new building was inspected from garret to cellar.

The afternoon session was devoted to business. The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, S. G. Ayres, Drew Seminary Library, Madison, N. J.; 1st vice-president, H. C. Deats, Flemington, N. J.; 2d vice-president, Miss Elizabeth H. Wesson, Orange Public Library; secretary, Miss Bertha S. Wildman, Madison Public Library; treasurer, Miss Sarah S. Oddie, East Orange Public Library.

CLARA WHITEHILL HUNT, *Secretary.*

#### OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* S. L. Wicoff, Sidney.

*Secretary:* E. C. Williams, Cleveland.

*Treasurer:* Miss Grace Prince, Springfield.

The seventh annual meeting of the Ohio Library Association was held in Sandusky, Oct. 1-4. It is now almost settled as a definite policy of the association that its meetings will be held the first week in October. This is in accordance with a plan talked over

informally at Waukesha, to have state meetings follow each other in regular order, so that any one finding himself able to attend several of these meetings would not be confronted with a conflict of dates. Owing to an arrangement made at that time the New York state meeting at Lake Placid was put a week earlier than at first intended, and by this arrangement both New York and Ohio were able to have the pleasure of Mr. Putnam's presence. From Ohio Mr. Putnam went on to the Iowa meeting, which came the next week.

The first week in October in Ohio generally gives very pleasant weather, and this year was no exception. The weather was delightful, and the pretty city of Sandusky was seen to good advantage. Lake Erie, too, was at its best, and the afternoon spent in a trip to Catawba Island was all that could be desired.

The reason for going to Sandusky this year was because of the completion of the new library building given by Andrew Carnegie. The building is a combination of music hall and library, and is well planned and well adapted to the needs of the city. The evening sessions of the meetings of the association were held in the music hall, while the day sessions were held in the art room connected with the library, the College Section being provided for in the reference room.

On the evening of Oct. 1 the first session was held, at which time the association was welcomed to Sandusky by Rev. Winfield S. Baer. Professor A. S. Root, president of the association, made the annual address, and Rev. Charles Martin gave an account of the evolution of the library in Sandusky. After this there was some time spent by the members of the association in inspecting the library and in greeting old friends. Wednesday morning was given up almost entirely to the reports of committees, there being but one paper, that of Miss E. L. Abbott on "Bibliography in the small library." The report of the library training committee was considered so important that its consideration was made a special order for Thursday morning. Wednesday afternoon was given to a trip on the lake, and Wednesday evening to the pleasure of listening to a lecture by Professor R. G. Moulton, and to enjoying a reception tendered by the people of Sandusky.

On Thursday morning the association had a general business session, listening to reports of committees and discussing the report of the committee on library training. The result of the discussion was that it was decided by the association that a committee should be appointed to have charge of the general subject of library training in the state. This committee is to appoint members of the association, subject to the approval of the executive board, to act as consultants during the year in different subjects pertaining to library economy. The committee is also to

provide library institutes whenever a sufficient demand comes for them. These institutes are to be in charge of paid instructors, who will give not less than two lectures a day during one week. It was also recommended that the state library keep a collection of all matter pertaining to library training, which collection can be sent to different parts of the state on demand. The association then divided into two sections, the Small Library Section and the College Section. The subject for Thursday afternoon was library legislation. The program was divided into three parts, the first part being an exposition of the library laws now in the statute books of Ohio, the second being experiences from a number of places as to what had been accomplished under these laws, and the third the report of the legislative committee. The committee's report was adopted almost exactly as read, and the association instructed the legislative committee of the next year to endeavor to secure the passing of a bill providing for the establishment of county libraries and for the appointment of a library organizer.

In the evening came the main public session of the meeting. At this time it had been the hope of the association to listen to Mr. R. R. Bowker, of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, he having expected to speak to the association on the subject of "The library and self-help." Owing to sudden illness he was not able to be present, and his place was taken by Mr. Herbert Putnam, who while at Lake Placid, hearing of Mr. Bowker's illness, with great kindness offered to substitute for him. His address on books, the material with which libraries have to deal, was a great inspiration. Preceding Mr. Putnam's address Mr. W. H. Brett, of Cleveland, gave a brief résumé of library progress during the last few years. Many Sandusky people were present at this meeting, and the association was favored with two songs by Mrs. Charles Greafe.

On Friday morning came the closing session of the association, at which time officers were elected for the ensuing year and the place of meeting was considered. The officers for the ensuing year are as follows: President, Mr. S. L. Wicoff, of Sidney; 1st vice-president, Mr. N. D. C. Hodges, of Cincinnati; 2d vice-president, not filled; 3d vice-president, Mrs. I. F. Mack, of Sandusky; secretary, Mr. E. C. Williams, of Cleveland; treasurer, Miss Grace Prince, of Springfield.

The committee on the place of meeting reported that in the opinion of the committee it would be desirable to meet in Columbus, but it recommended leaving the question to the executive committee to decide. This the association agreed to do. The meeting adjourned about 11 o'clock, after having expressed hearty resolutions of thanks to the people of Sandusky for their gracious hospitality.

OLIVE JONES, *Secretary*.

### Library Clubs.

#### BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss M. Anna Tarbell, Brimfield, Mass.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary D. Thurston, Public Library, Leicester, Mass.

*Treasurer:* Miss Eliza Hobbs, Brookfield, Mass.

The Bay Path Library Club held its fall meeting in library hall, Barre, Mass., Oct. 8, with an attendance of about 80. The morning session opened at 11 o'clock with an address of welcome by Hon. T. P. Root, chairman of the board of trustees of the Barre Library. Miss M. Anna Tarbell, president of the club, responded in a few well chosen words, and a brief business session closed the exercises of the morning.

At 1.15 p.m. the afternoon meeting was called to order by the president, who introduced Principal O. Harlow Russell of the Worcester Normal School as the first speaker. His subject — "Books of value to teachers" — was treated in a practical and yet entertaining manner, and held the undivided attention of his audience.

He spoke of the manifold relations existing between the public library and the school, and said that while teachers should direct the reading of their pupils to a certain extent, much should be left to the child's instinct. Librarians are much better fitted to have this oversight than teachers, in that they are more catholic and liberal, less prescriptive and proscriptive. Teachers should be great readers but they are not. They think that they have no time, whereas they, rather than the rich, might be termed "the leisure class." They feel that what reading they do should be in the line of their work, but such reading is dull beyond belief and should be taken only in small doses, like medicine. Four half-hours a week is enough to devote to pedagogical works. Teaching is both theoretical and practical. Among the books on the philosophy or theory of teaching, Mr. Russell places first Plato among the ancients and Rousseau among the moderns. But one must be possessed of ample imagination and be able to appreciate the ideal in order to fully grasp the meaning of Plato's "Republic" or Rousseau's "Emile." These two with John Locke ("Thoughts concerning education"), Montaigne and Richter constitute the choicest reading, while among the minor lights he places Pestalozzi, Froebel, Herbert Spencer and Edward Thrings.

Mr. Russell also thought that teachers needed to strive more for imaginative sympathy for children than for so-called knowledge of them.

Following this address, Dr. G. E. Wire, of the Worcester County Law Library, gave a helpful and interesting talk on the "Selection of books for small libraries."

In the discussion following this address,

the general opinion was expressed that the librarian should have a voice in the selection of books.

MARY D. THURSTON, *Secretary.*

#### LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.

*President:* H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* R. F. Morgan, Grosvenor Public Library.

The Library Club of Buffalo began its work for the coming season Oct. 24, 1901. The meeting was very enthusiastic and largely attended. Papers and reports were read on the Lake Placid conference of the New York State Library Association. The president, Mr. Elmendorf, addressed the club on the subject of "Library institutes." A committee was appointed by the club to look into the matter of library institutes and report at the next meeting on the advantages of making institute work the aim of the club for this winter.

R. F. MORGAN, *Secretary.*

#### CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* A. G. S. Josephson, John Crerar Library.

*Secretary:* Chesley R. Perry, Public Library.

*Treasurer:* C. A. Torrey, University of Chicago.

The Chicago Library Club enjoyed a trolley ride to Evanston and back on September 27. Refreshments were served at the Evanston Boat Club House, and there was some dancing by the younger members of the club. A number of the party dined together downtown and talked over the plans of the club for the coming season. This social meeting was in charge of a special committee, comprising Misses Foye, Stern, and Hill, and Messrs. Merrill and Perry.

The club held its first regular meeting of the season 1901-02 at the Public Library on Friday evening, Oct. 11. One hundred persons braved a rainstorm to greet Mr. Herbert Putnam. The report of the executive committee showed that the club is planning for a season of vigorous work. The constitution is being revised, and a club manual is in preparation. The union list of periodicals in the public libraries of Chicago and Evanston has been printed and is ready for distribution. The plans of the school extension committee to secure for the public a freer use of the school buildings of Chicago were endorsed, and the announcement was made that the executive committee had named the secretary as a representative to serve on that committee. Twelve new members were elected.

President Josephson presented as the topic for the evening "Problems in library co-operation." He said, in part:

"These problems can be divided in three groups: Problems of selection and purchase; of cataloging and announcement of acquisitions; of use.

"The problems of cataloging and announce-

ment are already solved, or on the way to be solved. Witness the plans for cataloging in one place, the Library of Congress, all the new accessions to American libraries, the joint monthly list of accessions to the libraries of Providence, R. I., and the "Union lists" of serials taken by the libraries of a certain city or vicinity, such as the one just completed for Chicago and Evanston. The ideal towards which we will have to work is a scheme whereby each city will have at one place a catalog of all the books in all the libraries in the city, each state a similar catalog of the state, and one library, the national library, a catalog of all the books in all the libraries of the country, these catalogs to be kept constantly up to date and each entry marked with the check marks of all the libraries possessing the book.

"The problems of selection and purchase are seemingly easy enough, but really of a larger bearing and requiring no less consideration than those concerning cataloging. The object of co-operation in selection is to prevent needless duplication, and it is not always easy to determine when duplication ceases to be wasteful and becomes helpful.

"In turning to the problems of co-operation in use we come to the really crucial issue. Here it is not merely a question of what the readers demand, nor what the librarians or even the trustees wish to do, but of what can be done under the laws governing state and municipal libraries, and under the wills creating endowed libraries. And when these difficulties have been cleared away as far as possible, there still remains the question in how far a library can lend books to other libraries in the same city or perhaps a thousand miles away without injuring the interests of those who come to the library, expecting to find its books on the shelves. This is distinctly a kind of co-operation where not all libraries can take part, but in which all that can should take part if they are to fulfil all their obligations. The small popular library, designed to be an adjunct to the homes, cannot be expected to do much, if anything, in this connection. Its duty is to its nearest constituency. Not so the scholarly library, the library devoted to special fields of literature. Such an institution is established to encourage research and scholarship, and its constituency is the republic of learning at large, scattered all over the country. The ideal here will not be attained until any student, no matter where he lives, can receive through the medium of his local library any book needed in his studies, no matter where it may be found.

"If the plans of the executive committee can be carried out, this meeting will be the first of a series covering the relations of public libraries, municipal or endowed, to other agencies for higher education, universities and professional schools, and also to students unaffiliated with any institution of learning, to business and professional men seeking in

books information that will guide them in their work.

"The problems of how the libraries are to meet the requirements of these various classes of readers are peculiarly difficult in a city like Chicago, with its long distances and its numerous institutions and libraries, scattered as they are. Sooner or later we must come to an effective system of co-operation between the libraries and learned institutions in this city. A beginning was made when the boards of the three large libraries divided the field of literature so as to prevent duplication in purchase. But it must be recognized, as I dare say it is recognized by those in authority, that this is only a beginning. Is it too much to hope that the discussions at the meetings of this club during the coming winter may be the means of perfecting such a system of co-operation?"

Dr. H. P. Judson, of the University of Chicago, opened the discussion with a few remarks upon the needs of university men. "The needs of the scholar and investigator are very simple. All he wants is this: Everything that has been produced on a subject; and he wants it all immediately." The difficulties confronting the investigator were thought to be the lack of definite knowledge as to where he can find his material and the fact that he can get it only by a considerable expenditure of time and effort. "If the scholar can minimize the time he must spend in getting mere material for his work he can then have more time to spend on the work." The speaker heartily approved of the co-operation suggested by Mr. Josephson, though he felt that the University of Chicago was as yet hardly in a position to share fully in such co-operation. With the development of the collection in the more adequate building already planned, the library could be strengthened along special lines, differentiating from the other Chicago collections. Dr. Judson touched upon the difficulty of obtaining material desired in research work. "Scholars in our great West are working with knowledge and honesty and ability. They are producing some results of value, but they are hampered very greatly indeed by this failure to get material they need. The difficulty is tremendous, right here in Chicago, and the result is, so far as we are concerned, that some of our investigators are compelled to drop work in Chicago and go elsewhere. Yet I am sufficiently optimistic to look forward to the time when the great mass of this material will be here in Chicago, and by the aid of our libraries will be accessible to us all."

Mr. Putnam followed with a clear and detailed statement of the co-operative plans outlined and hoped for by the Library of Congress. He briefly noted the extent and main divisions of its collection, and described the system of issue of the printed catalog cards, now arranged for. He also touched upon the possibilities of securing from large and spe-

cialized libraries order-lists of important books, to serve as purchase suggestions for the national library; upon the desirability of keeping the Library of Congress closely in touch with the contents and work of the other libraries of the country; and upon the propriety of establishing a wide and generous system of inter-library loans under the auspices of the national library.

CHESLEY R. PERRY, *Secretary.*

*LONG ISLAND LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Miss M. W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn.

*Secretary:* Miss Miriam S. Draper, Children's Museum, Brooklyn Institute.

*Treasurer:* Miss Mabel Farr, Adelphi College Library, Brooklyn.

By an error in the October issue of L. J. the name of Mr. C. A. Green was given as president of the Long Island Club. Mr. Green is vice-president.

The next meeting of the club will be held on the first Thursday in December.

*WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* George Stockwell, Westfield Athenaeum, Westfield.

*Secretary:* Ida F. Farrar, City Library, Springfield.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. A. J. Hawks, Meekins Library, Williamsburg.

The regular fall meeting of the Western Massachusetts Library Club was held Oct. 18, at Huntington, in the audience-room of the Baptist Church. Representatives of libraries in the following towns were present: Holyoke, Sunderland, Pittsfield, Blandford, Russell, Middlefield, Conway, Adams, Northampton, Florence, East Longmeadow, Ludlow, Brimfield, Westfield, Dalton, South Hadley and Springfield. The principal topic for the morning discussion was, "How to increase the usefulness of the reading-room," opened by Miss F. Mabel Winchell, of the Forbes Library, Northampton. Her points were very practical, such as to make the room inviting with books, pictures and plants. Advertise the room; if hampered by lack of funds, interest some of the townspeople to give their cast-off periodicals, or, better still, to subscribe for some for the library. Get the young people to come in to see the picture bulletins or exhibits—in that way they form the habit of coming, and once having formed the habit it becomes second nature.

The next paper on the subject, by Miss Anna B. Jackson, of North Adams, was read (in the absence of Miss Jackson) by Miss Ida Taylor, of the Springfield City Library. She approved fully of the theory that the best way to help a person is to help him to help himself, not to find exactly the information the reader wants and place it before him, leaving him no better able to help himself next time, but show him how to find it. The

usefulness of the reading-room is also increased by attending to the comfort of those who visit it, and even the care exercised in such prosaic matters as the purchase of tables and chairs is well repaid. This paper was followed by a discussion of the subject, in which Mr. Ballard, of Pittsfield, suggested the need of good light, and spoke of the use of glass ridged in prisms. In carrying out the exhibition idea he would adopt the Japanese plan of having only one fine picture or one bit of choice bric-a-brac shown at a time.

Echoes of other club meetings were given by J. C. Dana, of the Springfield Library, and Miss M. A. Tarbell, of Brimfield. Mr. Dana had attended the American Library Association meeting at Waukesha, and had brought away a very pleasant recollection of a good time in company with delightful people. Miss Tarbell "echoed" delightfully the recent meeting of the Cape Cod and the Bay Path Clubs, giving a résumé of Mr. Wheeler's talk on "Reading for teachers," reported in the account of the Bay Path meeting. The secretary also outlined the recent institute held at Greenwich Village. The club then adjourned to the vestry, where luncheon was served by the women of the church, after which a walk was taken to the top of Laurel Hill, where a wonderful panorama of hills is unfolded, with the Westfield river winding between. On the way back the company visited the town library, which rejoices in a larger appropriation this year than ever before.

The afternoon session opened with business, when H. H. Ballard, of Pittsfield; Miss Dorcas Tracy, of Northampton, and Miss Ida F. Farrar, of Springfield, were chosen delegates to represent the club at the meeting of the Massachusetts Club in Boston, Oct. 31. The first topic of the afternoon session was, "The ten best books of the year for a small library to buy," a printed list of which, carefully annotated, was placed in the hands of each person present. After a brief summary of each book by the secretary, there was a lively discussion as to the kind of books a library should buy. Should it always purchase those of a high class and seek to raise the people to its standard, or should it come down to the plane of the people with trashy literature, and seek to raise its standard by degrees? Should the library use the method of the saloon or of the club? Books may be standard in two senses: standard because they are good, and standard because they "stand" on the shelves. Get the books the people will read. The list of books was pronounced one likely to be of much assistance to the small libraries.

The subject of "Library helps" was treated by Miss Grace Ashley, of Springfield; Miss Blakeley, of Mount Holyoke College, and Miss Dema Gaylord, of Forbes Library, Northampton. Miss Ashley's paper showed

how printer's ink can be made use of through the newspaper, by advertising new books or pictures and by clippings, telling of local history and of history not local, through the monthly bulletin, special bulletins, bulletins of other libraries, publishers' lists, always taking care to have paper as good as the library can afford and the printing artistic. Miss Blakeley's remarks on indexes were suggestive and practical. Miss Gaylord showed how simple things, those near at hand, can be utilized by the librarians, through book covers posted with numbers attached, newspaper clippings fastened on bulletin boards, collections of books by and about an author whose anniversary is celebrated, on "birthday" tables, with pictures of himself and his home hung above, a nature study table in the spring, a table of the different countries of especial interest at the time, etc.

After a vote of thanks passed to the directors and librarian of the Huntington Library, the meeting adjourned, giving time for the visitors to examine the books which had been brought as representative of the list discussed in the afternoon. Ida F. FARRAR, *Secretary*.

### Library Schools and Training Classes.

#### DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

##### NEWS AND NOTES.

On October 30, the Drexel Institute Library School Association held its annual meeting at the Institute. After the business session, a reception to the new class was held.

Miss Anna B. Day, class of '01, will organize the Carnegie Library at Grove City, Pa.

Miss Gertrude P. Humphrey, class of '01, has been engaged as organizer of the Public Library, Lansing, Michigan.

Miss Harriet A. Mumford, class of '97, has been appointed librarian of Hill School, Pottstown, Pa.

Miss Emily J. Kuhn, class of '00, has been appointed librarian of the McKeesport Public Library.

Miss Mary H. Upton, class of '97, who has been studying book binding at the Dove bindery under Cobden-Sanderson, returned in September and has opened a bindery in Philadelphia.

Miss Caroline B. Perkins, class of '01, has accepted a position in the West Philadelphia Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia.

Miss Edith F. Pancoast, class of '01, is cataloging a private library in Portland, Maine.

Miss Bessie H. Jennings, class of '00, has been engaged as an assistant in the Bryn Mawr College Library.

Miss S. Alberta Rice, class of '01, is assisting in the cataloging of the Public Library, Hackensack, N. J.

#### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

##### NOTES AND NEWS.

Mr. Jacob A. Riis who addressed the school and staff informally Oct. 11, succeeded in communicating to the audience the contagion of his buoyant spirits and his optimistic attitude towards life. He believes that the people of the slums will read books that are pure and high in their ideals, but confesses that it is very hard to wean them from the "yellow" journals. When asked whether the public library should supply a demand for anarchistic literature he replied—"Keep it out as you would dynamite. It is dynamite."

Miss Katharine L. Sharp (N. Y., 1892), director of the University of Illinois State Library School, gave a paper at the annual meeting of the National Association of Collegiate Alumnae at Buffalo, October 26, on "Library schools and the librarian's opportunities." She was easily persuaded to cross the state to visit this school, where she gave a thoughtful and interesting address. Both in Buffalo and in Albany she took the ground that library schools granting degrees should require a college degree for admission. An informal reception was given to Miss Sharp immediately after her lecture.

Two changes in the curriculum were made in October. The courses in elementary classification and elementary bibliography are given to the junior class at the beginning of the school year, followed November 18 by the course in elementary cataloging. The reference course is transferred from the senior to the junior year, and the work on current topics from the reading seminar to the reference class. A course in advanced reference work will be added.

What is the best way for a public library to make its work known through the local newspaper? The senior class are trying to answer this interesting, practical question by writing in turn a library letter for the Albany *Argus*, covering both the local and general library news of the week. The letter is prepared in connection with the library news report given in the senior seminar. A similar letter is furnished by W. H. Brett for the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*, and by Miss Hazelton for the Jamestown *Evening Journal*. The following item is quoted from the *Argus* of November 4:

"The senior class of the New York State Library School gave a Hallowe'en party to the junior class, the faculty and a few other guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dewey, 315 Madison avenue. Many of the customary features in the way of games, decorations and edibles were observed, but other novel games were added, and the weirdness of the whole was heightened by sheet and pillow-case disguises."

The class of 1903 has organized with Mr. Malcolm G. Wyer as president, and Miss Ella R. Seligsberg as secretary and treasurer. Mr. Wyer is a brother of Mr. J. I. Wyer, Jr.,

[November, 1901]

class of 1898, librarian of the University of Nebraska. SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

HANDBOOK, 1901.

The University of the State of New York issues State Library bulletin 66, for September, 1901 (Library School 9), being a "Handbook of New York State Library School, including summer course and library handwriting." It gives full details regarding scope, requirements and features of the school course, and includes several views of the study rooms. An appendix is devoted to the article upon library handwriting, originally printed in *Library Notes* in 1887 and later revised.

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Miss Sarah C. Nelson, '92, has been engaged to catalog the Public Library of Akron, O.

Miss Henrietta C. Bartlett, 1901, has been engaged in cataloging the library of the Lawrence High School, at Lawrence, N. Y.

Miss Susan Clendenin, 1901, has been appointed assistant in the Y. W. C. A. Library of New York City.

Mrs. Metta R. Ludey, 1901, has been engaged for the staff of Pratt Institute Free Library.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Mr. Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, visited the school October 6-8. On the evening of October 7 he gave a general address on "The public library movement and the relation of the scholar to it." On Tuesday morning he spoke to the library school on the Library of Congress, and on Tuesday afternoon to the College of Law and the library school on the law of copyright. The visit was an occasion of great satisfaction to the library school and to the university at large.

The director of the library school spoke at Buffalo, Oct. 26, at the annual meeting of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, on the subject, "Library schools on a graduate basis"; urging a baccalaureate degree for entrance to the schools connected with universities.

The students are now enjoying a loan exhibit of picture bulletins made by the New York State Library School last year.

Mrs. Martha B. Clark is organizing the library of the Steel Works Club at Joliet, Ill.

Miss Caroline Wandell has been appointed cataloger at the University of Texas.

The director had a delightful visit at the New York State Library School, Oct. 28, and the Illinois students appreciated the sympathetic and cordial relation between the schools.

WISCONSIN SUMMER SCHOOL.

The seventh annual session of the Wisconsin Summer School for Library Training, un-

der the direction of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, was held in Madison at the State Historical Library, July 8-Aug. 31. There were 37 students present, 23 from Wisconsin, and others from Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Kansas, Missouri, Nevada, Oregon and Ohio.

The model library collected for the school was used for the first time, and added greatly to the value of the work. The reference work was done in the fine reading room of the State Historical and University libraries. The students enjoyed the privilege of a tour of the building in company with Mr. Thwaites, prefaced by a talk on library fittings and supplies. Special lectures were given by Mr. Thwaites, Miss Stearns and Miss Bertha M. Brown. For the final examination the class made a complete dictionary catalog of the library, each student cataloguing 20 books.

Next year a supplementary four weeks' course will probably be added to the regular course of eight weeks. The plan is to offer some additional work each year, so that summer school students may look forward to more training, and, in the course of a few years, complete the work usually given during the first year in library schools. Only librarians of experience actually employed, or to be employed, will be accepted as students.

It is hoped that at least one person from every library in the state will attend the summer school in 1902. The beginners are expected to take the regular course, those who have already attended may come for the supplementary course, or for the special course in documents.

*A Course in Public Documents.*

The Wisconsin Free Library Commission has engaged Miss Adelaide R. Hasse, chief of document department of the New York Library, to give a course of instruction in public documents at Madison, Wis., during the three weeks from Aug. 6-27, 1902. Miss Hasse's work as assistant librarian in the Los Angeles Public Library, as librarian of the Office of Superintendent of Documents in Washington, and in her present position, has made her an authority on the subject of documents. She will put into this course the best results of her ten years' experience.

The work is planned to cover the study of U. S. federal, state and municipal documents, and to occupy the time of the student from 9 to 5 o'clock daily. Only those who have had library school training or equivalent experience in practical library work will be admitted. The tuition is \$10.

The care of documents is a very important part of library work, and one for which the majority of librarians are totally unfitted. It is hoped that many will avail themselves of this opportunity to work under Miss Hasse's direction.

For further information address Wisconsin Free Library Commission, Madison, Wis.

**Reviews.**

A. L. A. INDEX: an index to general literature, biographical, historical and literary essays and sketches, reports and publications of boards and societies dealing with education, health, labor, charities and corrections; by William I. Fletcher; with the cooperation of many librarians. 2d ed., enl. and brought to Jan. 1, 1901. Issued by the Publishing Board of the American Library Association. Boston, Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1901. 4+679 p. l. O. \$10, net.

The new edition of wider scope than the old, which has been promised us by Mr. Fletcher, has become an accomplished fact, and is greeted with pleasure by all libraries, large and small, doing reference work. It serves as an analytical subject-index for many most important books of essays, authors' collected works, reports and proceedings of societies. The new edition is fully twice the size of the original one. Not only has the "General literature index" from 1893-99, which appeared in the "Annual literary index," been incorporated, but many books, conspicuous by their absence in the 1893 edition, but of the same general character, have been included, thus remedying the most marked defect of that edition. The abbreviations employed throughout the index are merely contractions of the full titles which one could hardly fail to identify, even without reference to the "List of books indexed" which appears at the end of the volume. Especial care has been taken to make self-explanatory the abbreviations of certain titles, references to which appear in the index, but which are purposely omitted from the "List of books," because no systematic analysis of them has been attempted. Forms of entry in the "List of books indexed" have been revised, i.e., University of State of New York now appears under New York State University. Space has been left between the entries here that call-numbers may be supplied by the library if thought desirable. It is with pleasure we note the addition of several national and state publications. Most notable among them will be found the reports of the U. S. Bureau of Education, labor bulletins and reports of the National Museum. One valuable new feature is the inclusion of the index to bibliographies and reading-lists which has appeared in the "Annual literary index." The principle of indexing only such books as are common in most libraries has been generally but not invariably observed, the rare exceptions being in favor of works of unusual value and interest, readily accessible in the large libraries, although probably not to be found in the smaller collections. No books in foreign language are included. History and travel, representing so exhaustive a field,

may seem to have been a little slighted, but reference to a few of the best books in these classes are found under the names of the important places or events concerned. F. R.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY. Library bulletins, no. 2: Books on education in the libraries of Columbia University. New York, Columbia University, 1901. 6+435 p. l. 8°.

This large and handsomely printed finding-list is prefaced by a note written by Prof. Nicholas Murray Butler, acting-president of the university, in which the list is characterized as to a certain degree tentative in "that it will show what the Columbia University libraries possess on education and wherein the collection needs additions in order to be as complete as possible." This statement is an admirable defense of the publication of the list and at the same time indicates a most wholesome spirit of progress on the part of the department of pedagogy of the university and of the university library. It must have taken no small amount of moral courage to expose so unmercifully as this list does the gaps in the collections, particularly in the line of official documents, and also to incur the expense of publishing with minute bibliographical details titles of so many thousand pamphlets. At the same time it must be an occasion for no little pride that the university is able to set forth nearly 14,000 titles in a list of this sort, omitting, however, its entire collection of *Columbianiana* and the large collection in the Bryson Library illustrative of the history of text-books.

How extremely difficult it is to secure complete files of the publications of colleges and universities, and how great is the need for careful study of this problem will be evident from a glance at several sections of this list. So few institutions have absolutely complete sets of their own publications, catalogs, and announcements; so great is the difficulty of securing back numbers; and so, apparently, unprofitable is the preservation of this class of printed matter, that too many of our libraries offer the student of educational problems either no material at all, or sets with gaps at exactly the vital spots. The publication of this list and its wide dissemination should lead to numerous gifts to Columbia to fill vacant spaces, and should cause many another institution to overhaul its files to see in what condition they are.

To criticize in detail a list covering 403 pages of two columns each is impossible in the space allotted. Certain remarks may, however, be made without attempting to do full justice to the subject. The first is that the list is not a true finding-list inasmuch as call numbers are entirely omitted. The student must still consult the card catalog to secure his books, although he is aided to the extent of notifying him in which of the two libraries the work is housed. Considerations of expense may well have prompted the omission

of the call numbers, and other possible reasons will at once suggest themselves.

Another observation is that there are decided vagaries of classification in the list, despite the excellence of the general scheme. Exception will probably be taken by most students to the separation of the state universities from other institutions for higher education. This is done on the ground that these universities represent "the highest grade of public instruction" in those states supporting them. This is undoubtedly true, but the convenience of readers would be served by grouping all universities of the country together. It is somewhat strange also to find the University of Cincinnati and the New York University placed under the caption "Cities and towns" instead of that of higher education in the United States, although some justification for this may be found in the fact that the University of Cincinnati receives some income from the city. These and other occasional peculiarities of classification cease to be regarded as difficulties in the use of the list when one consults the author index prepared by Miss Baldwin of the Bryson Library.

It is encouraging and refreshing to find so large a proportion of the books grouped under "Present systems" in the department of History of education, and to observe that the "Study of the classics" has been made a sub-heading under Secondary education, where, of course, it really belongs. It is also a pleasure to note the extent to which analytical work has been done with all collections and composite books. More extensive still is the cataloging of pamphlets. The catalog is very largely the personal work and has been carried through under the direction of Mr. C. Alex. Nelson, reference librarian, to whose careful and painstaking labor it bears notable witness. In the sections devoted to the official and historical side of education over a third of the titles are those of works of less than 50 pages. For example, the total number of works on education in Germany is 248, of which 100 have less than 75, and 84 less than 50 pages. Two singular omissions have been noted. In the section devoted to summer schools there are no titles bearing on the Chautauqua system. Apparently, also, there are no works, catalogs, or circulars in the libraries of Columbia University relating to library schools or to professional training for librarians.

Wm. WARNER BISHOP.

PARKER, H. W. New system of classification and numbering in use in the Mechanics' Institute Free Library. New York City, 1901. 95 p. O.

This scheme, prepared by the librarian of the New York Mechanics' Institute Free Library (formerly the Apprentices'), is much on the lines of the Schwartz classification, 18 letters of the alphabet being used to designate the classes instead of 21, as in Mr. Schwartz's

system. Under these main divisions lower case letters are used instead of numerals, giving as the scheme stands, 140 subdivisions.

The author states, in his introduction, that the "system is as nearly mnemonic as possible, intending to aid both the public and library employees."

All logic of arrangement is sacrificed to the intended mnemonic features of the system: thus A is agriculture; B biography, etc. Why not A Arts, fine and useful; or E Europe, as in the Schwartz system, as well as the curious *olla podrida* "Class E, Education, business, language and philosophy?"

All reports and public documents, regardless of subject, are found (or lost?) under R Pamphlets are classed under General works, pamphlets (Gp). Considering the disregard of logic in the scheme, it is not strange that the subdivision here does not parallel the main classification, but pursues a wholly independent course.

Following the classification is the "Numbering system," whereby numerals assigned to certain groups of letters and used for book numbers give an alphabetical arrangement by author.

By Mr. Parker's system the call number of Lossing's "Our country," Hu 359580, is of the same length as by either the Decimal or Expansive classification, followed by the Cutter author number and initial letter of the title.

In putting this system of classification into use, the lack of a subject index would be felt at once.

M. L. D.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

FOOTE, Elizabeth L. Making the Sunday-school library a success. (*In The Sunday-school Times*, Oct. 19, 1901. 43:679-680.)

This is the first of a series of articles by Miss Foote on the Sunday-school library. In this one is discussed the first steps of reform, the librarian, and how books should be chosen.

*The Library World*, for October, is mainly devoted to the recent annual meeting, at Plymouth, of the Library Association of the United Kingdom. Editorially it considers the Plymouth meeting "on the whole to have been the most practical and valuable held for a long time. We particularly commend the devotion of a session to a single topic, instead of cramming into one morning papers and discussions on many subjects."

The REPORT OF THE U. S. COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION for 1899-1900, recently issued, contains (v. 1, ch. 13) the interesting "Report of Committee of the National Educational Association on the relations of public libraries to public schools." The report in-

cludes a full review of the literary work done, conjointly with public libraries, by public schools, by Sherman Williams; suggestions on supplementary reading, by Robert C. Metcalf; a report of the subcommittee on relation of libraries to normal schools, by M. Louise Jones; papers on "establishing libraries in villages" and "securing libraries for rural schools," by F. A. Hutchins; and other articles in the same field.

#### LOCAL.

*American Congregational Ass'n L., Boston.* The additions for the year 1900-'01 were by a typographic error given as 2187 in *L. J.* for October (p. 763). They amounted in fact to 3187, of which 1850 were unbound pamphlets.

*Billings, Mont. Parmly Billings Memorial L.* The formal dedication and opening of the new Parmly Billings Memorial Library, the gift of Frederick Billings, Jr., of New York, was held on the evening of Tuesday, Oct. 1, in the opera house, followed by a public reception in the library. Miss Mabel Collins is the librarian.

*Boston. General Theological L.* (39th rpt., year ending May 20, 1901.) A short historical sketch traces the development of the library from its organization on April 20, 1860, to its present condition, with a collection of some 20,000 v., in a building of its own. "The last and perhaps most important step in the development of the institution, and one towards which its friends had long been looking, was taken in the year 1900. By vote of the directors, January 15, ratified by the corporation at the annual meeting in April, the library was made free to all New England clergymen. Ministers of Greater Boston may obtain books in person. Others may draw them through their local libraries, which are made distributing branches. Those living beyond the reach of libraries may on application obtain personal cards and have books sent to them."

The secretary and librarian, Mr. G. A. Jackson, touches upon this extension of the library's privileges, and adds, "After an adequate income, the only other requirement to make the library more and more useful is lower postage rates on books. We have been prominent in the national movement to secure from Congress such lower rates." Accessions for the year numbered 256. The circulation was 5110, or "234 per cent. of the last preceding year." It is stated that "already 202 clergymen of Greater Boston have taken out free cards and are using our books. Of the public libraries throughout New England, 94, representing 1065 clergymen, have been made our distributing branches. Above one-fourth of the ministers of New England are thus in one year's time in a position to use our books without cost save for carriage."

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L.* At the October meeting of the board the matter of selecting sites for the Carnegie branch libraries was briefly discussed. The sites committee was directed to look over the field, decide upon sections of the borough in which it would seem desirable to locate branches, and report its findings at a later meeting.

The contract between Mr. Carnegie and Messrs. Boody, Appleton, Devoy and McWilliams, as a committee representing the library board, was formally signed by the latter on Oct. 7.

The sinking fund commissioners on Oct. 30 refused to authorize the removal of the Bedford branch of the library from its present quarters, 26 Brevoort Place, to Avon Hall, on Bedford avenue, on the ground that the premises selected were undesirable for library purposes.

*Brooklyn, N. Y. Pratt Institute F. L.* Another step in practical bibliography has been taken by the library, in the shape of a course in works of reference, for high school teachers. The class has begun with 13 enthusiastic members, meeting one hour a week for 10 weeks. Only those books are characterized and discussed which are especially valuable to teachers and their classes; there are no tests or examinations, no recitations, and only as many problems given as can be dealt with in the hour.

The Astral Branch of the Pratt Institute Free Library was transferred Sept. 15 to the Brooklyn Public Library. It will be continued as a branch of that library.

It has been decided that the annual report of the library will hereafter appear as the *Library number of the Pratt Institute Monthly*, in December. Its issue in the small pamphlet form, previously adopted, is thus discontinued.

*Chattanooga (Tenn.) L. A.* The library will be removed Dec. 1 from its present quarters to rooms in the Masonic Temple building, on Cherry street.

*Chicago (Ill.) P. L.* An abstract of the report of the librarian for the year ending May 31, 1901, gives the following facts: Added, 21,854, of which 18,910 were purchased; total 272,276. Issued, home use 1,772,741 (fict. 45.20%; juv. fict. 28.64%); total circulation (ref. dept., bound newspapers, branch reading rooms, etc.), 2,318,579. The number of delivery stations was increased from 60 to 65; the home circulation through these stations amounted to 1,164,320, "comprising nearly 66 per cent. of the entire home circulation." The average cost for each book circulated through the stations was 1.65 cents.

In the reference room 121,709 visitors were recorded, to whom 336,103 v. were issued from the stacks; no record is kept of open shelf use. Of books for the blind, 858 were circulated for home use and 122 were used in

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the library. The total cards issued during the two years ending May 31 was 80,616, of which 41,967 were issued to males and 38,649 to females; the number of "live" cards is given as 75,109. There are now employed in all departments of the library's service 208 persons, with an expenditure for salaries of \$135,678.76.

*Cleveland (O.) P. L.* The library was formally opened to the public in its new temporary building on Wood street, on the evening of Oct. 29. The library had been performing routine work in its new home for some time, but no formal exercises had been held. A general reception was arranged as a "house-warming," and addresses were delivered by Judge J. C. Hutchins, President C. F. Thwing, of Western Reserve University, and others. The rooms were attractively decorated, there was a good musical program, and a large gathering of interested visitors made a thorough inspection of the new building.

*Dallas (Tex.) P. L.* The handsome Carnegie building of the Dallas Public Library was formally turned over to the city on Oct. 29. The exercises, held in Carnegie hall of the new building, were largely attended, and a general reception and inspection of the building followed. Mr. Carnegie's gift for the building was \$50,000. The site cost \$9525, largely raised by public contributions; and the library has an annual income of about \$5000, of which \$4000 is city appropriation. About \$8000 have been spent on books, furniture and equipment.

The building is of the classic type, of Roman pressed brick and gray Bedford stone. Entrance is made by broad steps and a marble portico to a handsome rotunda, at the end of which, in the center of the building facing the main entrance, is the delivery counter of marble and oak, from which the attendant may see and control the entire interior. Provision is made for a children's room, art room, reading room, assembly room, and other departments. The stack room has an ultimate capacity of 100,000 v. The shelves, now in position will hold about 21,000 v., and 9852 v. are already installed. The librarian is Miss Rosa Leeper, formerly on the St. Louis Public Library staff.

*Durham (Ct.) P. L.* The cornerstone of the new library building was laid on the afternoon of Nov. 2.

*East Orange (N. J.) F. P. L.* The cornerstone of the \$50,000 library building given to East Orange by Andrew Carnegie was laid with simple exercises on the afternoon of Oct. 29.

*Fort Worth, Tex. Carnegie P. L.* The library was formally opened to the public on the morning of Oct. 17, when about 250 card-holders were registered. The equipment is not

yet complete, but about 8000 v. are available for use.

*Fresno, Cal. Carnegie L.* The conditions of competition for the \$30,000 library building given to Fresno by Andrew Carnegie were made public on Oct. 8. All drawings must be submitted by Dec. 1. The new building must provide for at least 10,000 v., with an ultimate capacity of 25,000.

*Galveston, Tex. Rosenberg L. A.* The directors of the library association have accepted the building plans submitted by Eames & Young, of St. Louis. It is hoped to begin active building operations by the first of the year. The site chosen is the northwest corner of Tremont street and Sealy avenue. The building will cost approximately \$160,000.

*Greenville, O.* The cornerstone of the new Carnegie Library building was laid on Oct. 30.

*Illinois State Historical L., Springfield.* (6th biennial rpt.—period ending Dec. 24, 1900.) Added 1940, "of which 796 are U. S. government publications, the remaining 1144 books and pamphlets of a general nature"; total 12,031.

This interesting report is a comprehensive sketch of the history of the library, of the difficulties encountered, largely due to crowded accommodations, of the impetus given by the recent state appropriation of \$600 a year for the "publication of original matter relating to Illinois history," and of the hopes and plans of the librarian, Mrs. Weber, for collecting and arranging state and county histories, maps, newspapers, portraits, etc. By far the most important of the five publications so far issued by the society is the catalog of the library. "The subject 'Illinois' as the fundamental subject and object of the library has been cataloged in chronological order. Matter relating to Illinois begins with the early French explorers, through French and English ownership of the Mississippi Valley, through Illinois as a county of Virginia, as a part of the Northwest Territory, of Indiana Territory, of Illinois Territory and the State of Illinois. The material has also been classified under many sub-divisions, and may be said to, in a way, itself portray the growth of the state." There is also a card catalog which supplements this printed record.

The library is now endeavoring to increase its collection of Lincolniana, hoping to make it the best in the country. For the old and frail original Lincoln papers a specially designed case has recently been purchased.

The librarian urges not only increased accommodations, but also additional assistance to carry on the growing reference work.

*Louisville, Ky. Polytechnic Soc. L.* Contracts have been signed for the erection of a new six-story building for the Polytechnic Society. The library will occupy three floors,

and there will be a lecture hall seating 500 persons. According to the contract, the building is to be ready for occupancy not later than Sept. 1, 1902.

*Ludlow, Vt. Fletcher Memorial L.* The handsome memorial library building, given to Ludlow by Hon. Allen M. Fletcher, of Indianapolis, was dedicated on the afternoon of Nov. 1. The exercises were largely attended, the afternoon being practically observed as a holiday. The shops were closed, and time for attendance was granted to all the workers in the mills. The presentation address was made by Mr. Fletcher, and the response on the part of the library trustees was made by Governor Stickney. The chief speaker of the day was Rev. M. H. Buckham, president of the University of Vermont.

The library building stands on a beautiful site, at the head of the park on Main street. In plan it is in the form of a Latin cross, at the head of which is the vestibule opening into the delivery room, which is at the crossing, with a reading room on either side, forming the arms, while directly in front or in the foot of the cross is the stack room. The librarian's room is in the angle formed by the stack room and the right hand reading room. The interior plan of the vestibule is a square, elongated by semi-circular ends, in one of which is the staircase leading to the basement. The walls are of white marble with Ionic pilasters. The floor is of marble mosaic decoration worked out in green, white and red marbles. The ceiling is also of mosaic in similar colors, the portions over the semicircular ends being flat while that over the central portion is a barrel vault.

The delivery room is square in plan with a vaulted stucco ceiling. The walls are of white marble with Doric pilasters supporting the arched openings to stack and reading rooms and vestibule. The floor is of colored marble mosaic of an elaborate design. The reading rooms have vaulted stucco ceilings broken by beams and panels. The walls have a wainscot of dark oak, pilastered and panelled, running up a distance of ten feet to the spring of the arch of the round headed windows. In either reading room is a massive mantel of Caen stone, with a richly carved coat of arms—one of the Fletcher family and one of the state of Vermont. The rooms are furnished in dark oak. The stack room is simply treated, and is fitted up with light oak bookcases.

The building is in the style of the later English Renaissance. The exterior walls are of red brick and buff Bedford limestone, with a Milford granite base. The roof is of green slate with copper ridges. The front of the library is a free adaption of the Winchester School, at Winchester, England, and consists of a central pavilion crowned with a pediment, on either side of which are wings containing the reading rooms, each with three

round-headed windows enclosed in a frame with brackets and cornices.

The entrance is in the central pavilion and has rusticated Doric pilasters supporting a broken pediment containing the Fletcher coat of arms, and above this and corresponding to the carved panel over the windows is a panel flanked by festoons with the name and date of erection. Fehmer & Page, of Boston, were the architects.

There are about 8000 volumes in the stack room, and free access to the shelves is permitted. Miss Martin is the librarian.

*Manitowoc (Wis.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, 1901.) Added by purchase 700; by gift 648; total 5133. Circulation 40,526 (fict. 75%). New registration 976; total 3000.

It is interesting to note the provision for readers of various nationalities and the corresponding circulation, as follows: German books 271, with a circulation of 3452; Polish 134, circulation 681; Bohemian 63, circulation 516; Norwegian 440, circulation 284; French 4, circulation 5; total for foreign books 912, with a circulation of 4938. Some of the wealthier citizens have started a fund for the erection of a library building which it is hoped may be obtained through local enthusiasm and support rather than through outside benefaction.

*Memphis, Tenn. Cossitt L.* The work of reorganizing the library, undertaken when the present librarian, Charles D. Johnston, assumed charge three years ago, is now fairly completed. When Mr. Johnston was appointed librarian the books were not classified, and there was no catalog except the accession book and a partial author catalog, typewritten on sheets. The circulation was less than 25,000 a year. Since then steady progress has been made, and the circulation this year will be about 65,000 v. An author, classified, and separate fiction and juvenile card catalogs, are complete. The library, indeed, has reached the stage where it can plan for "missionary work," and it is hoped within the next year to establish a branch for negroes, several delivery stations, and to get into closer contact with the schools. As a means of bringing its resources clearly to public notice the library prints from time to time lists of accessions in the local *Scimitar*. These are printed without charge by the paper, which also permits the use of the linotype slugs by the library for striking off extra copies of the lists.

*Missouri. Libraries in.* The "circular of information" issued by the University of Missouri committee on approved schools contains a synopsis of the state law affecting libraries and suggestions for the purchase of books. The law of March 19, 1901, makes it mandatory upon district boards of directors to set aside not less than five nor more than 20

cents per pupil enumerated in the district each year, to be devoted to purchase of books, the first hundred volumes to be from a list selected by the state library board. The suggestions in the circular are made in view of this provision of the law, and "with the hope of stimulating the growth of the high school libraries throughout the state and directing that growth in the right direction." A selected classed list is given, including textbooks and general works in the main subjects of school instruction, and this is followed by a reprint of the short reference list on Bible study, prepared by Dr. Lyman Abbott.

*New York Historical Soc.* At a meeting of the society held on Oct. 1, plans were adopted for a new building to cost \$1,000,000. The architects selected are York & Sawyer, of New York.

The building will be erected on land which the society has owned for several years, on Central Park west, including the entire block between 76th and 77th streets. The building space is 204 feet long and 125 feet deep. The new structure will be three stories in height, but from the exterior will appear as only two stories, the upper story consisting of arched windows, divided by marble Ionic pillars. The building will be erected by wings, and the central portion will be the first begun. It will be the largest of the three sections, and will contain the principal rooms for lectures, the library, the portrait and art galleries, and the museum halls. Beginning on the ground floor, reception rooms and committee rooms will be on either side and in the rear, beyond a broad hall, will be the lecture hall, capable of seating 530 persons.

On the second floor a circular reading room, modelled upon that of the British Museum, will be found directly over the lecture hall. Book alcoves will be ranged on the outer edges of the circle. About 200 persons can use the room comfortably, and for students on special research there will be two or three smaller rooms. The stack rooms in the central section will furnish shelving for 134,000 volumes. When the two side wings are finished, in addition to the stack room in the basement, there will be shelf room for fully 250,000 books.

President Hoffman, of the society, in reviewing the plans, said: "It is estimated that the portion first to be erected will cost about \$400,000, and we have about \$100,000 in cash subscribed. With the value of the present site, owned outright by the society, we can safely say that about half the amount needed to begin work is in hand."

*New York P. L.—Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations.* (Rpt.—year ending June 30, '01: in *Bulletin*, October, p. 395-425.) The notable events of the year reviewed were, of course, the completion of the Carnegie contract for branch buildings, and the consolidation with the New York Free Circulating Li-

brary, "thus ensuring a broad and comprehensive library system for the city." The details of both these events have been already fully recorded in these columns. Another important undertaking was the establishment in June of general reading rooms in four public school buildings, under authorization and with the aid of the board of education. This system of school branches forms a part of the circulation department, and will be extended to additional selected schools as soon as practicable.

Statistics of accession and cataloging work are given for the central reference library as follows: received 32,971, of which 17,404 were gifts; pamphlets 44,669, of which 31,112 were gifts. "The total number of volumes on the shelves and available for use at the end of June, 1901, was 538,957, and of pamphlets about 182,370."

"Reclassification in the reference department has been continued during the year;" 36,155 v. and 5033 pamphlets were reclassified, the main work being done in the sections of theology and church history, philosophy, mathematics, astronomy, physics, chemistry, German history, and classical and English literature. In the catalog department 60,308 v. and 39,045 pm. were cataloged. The index catalog, at the close of the year covered, contained about 850,500 cards. "The 'small card' catalog at the Astor building, which contained the author and subject record of books received by the Astor Library between 1880 and 1896, has now been abolished, all the entries in it having been transferred to the official author catalog and to the public index catalog, either on written or printed cards." The author catalog of books added to the Astor prior to 1880 contained in the eight printed volumes of the Cogswell and Nelson catalogs, will ultimately be transferred to cards and embodied in the general index catalog. Dr. Billings states that "owing to want of funds it has been found necessary to discharge the greater part of the extra force which has been employed for the last three years in bringing up arrears of work in cataloging and classification, and this work must now go on more slowly. Of recent accessions there still remain few thousand books and pamphlets to be cataloged; but unless some large and unforeseen addition by gift should come in, I hope to have all of these disposed of by the end of the next fiscal year. There are still about 100,000 books and pamphlets cataloged by author titles only."

Visitors to the Astor and Lenox buildings during the year numbered 143,972, of whom 101,689 visited the former. There were 605,487 volumes and periodicals issued to readers in both buildings. At the Astor the largest percentage of use (19%) was of books in applied science; at the Lenox genealogy was the subject most in demand. Summaries of chief accessions and general work in special departments are given. The Slavonic depart-

ment now contains 3161 v. In the print department 8763 prints were accessioned, and important gifts included over 400 prints from S. P. Avery, 990 prints from Charles B. Curtis, 628 prints from James D. Smillie, 909 prints from R. H. Storer, and 1763 prints from Japanese artists, by Charles Stewart Smith. Several notable public exhibitions were held.

In making purchases of books for the reference library, in view of the lack of sufficient funds to keep all departments up to date, the following aims have been formulated and followed:

"To maintain and increase that department of the library which is the strongest, which gives it a distinctive character, and in which the scholars and writers of this country take the greatest interest, namely, American history."

"To supply a large group of current periodical literature covering all the subjects in history, literature, art, science, and technology, for the latest information with regard to which there is the greatest demand on the part of readers."

"To add important works of reference in departments of growing interest and importance, but in which the library was relatively weak."

"To buy comparatively little in departments which are well covered by other professional or technical libraries in the city."

"Not to buy high-priced books whose value consists mainly in their rarity."

Statistics for the circulating department (formerly the New York Free Circulating Library) are given only in tabulated appendixes. They cover four months only, and show additions of 6789; total 176,199; home use, 584,200.

On Oct. 16 G. L. Rives, secretary of the library board, issued a statement outlining the general policy that is to be pursued regarding the selection of sites and plans for the Carnegie branch libraries. It was announced that one site, at East 70th street and Second ave., had already been selected. "Application will shortly be made to the city for the purchase of other sites. With regard to the planning of buildings, it has seemed best to the trustees that the libraries should be not only built of a distinctive type, but that there should be as much uniformity in the design, use of materials, general character and scale of the different buildings as is consistent with the numerous variations bound to exist in the practical requirements at different places and the dimensions and diversity of sites and their surroundings.

"How to secure the sort of uniformity of type that is desired has been a matter of serious consideration with the trustees. The problem is not unlike that which has had to be dealt with at the great exposition of Chicago and Buffalo, where it has been desired to put up adjacent buildings exhibiting a uni-

formity of type but some individual diversity. It has seemed to the trustees that the best solution of the difficulty would be found, not in competition, but in collaboration. The trustees would not have been satisfied to entrust the entire work of erecting the 42 branches which they are to construct to a single architect. On the other hand, it was plain, that too large a number of architects would not be able to work together in as efficient a manner as a comparatively small number.

"Acting on these general principles, the trustees at their last meeting resolved to invite three firms of architects, viz., McKim, Mead & White, Carrere & Hastings, and Babb, Cook & Willard, to serve the library in designing and supervising the construction of the branches in question, with the single exception of the 70th street branch, which, it is expected, will be constructed from designs furnished by James Brown Lord. The three firms above named are to act in collaboration and decide jointly all matters of common import regarding the designs and construction and other details relating to the various buildings. The designing of each separate building, however, and the supervision of its construction are to be entrusted by allotment to several firms.

"It is the expectation of the trustees that the advisory board will at once take up the problem of designing these libraries and determine upon what may be called a general type of building, and that as fast as the city acquires sites for branch libraries these designs for the buildings will be ready, and the work of construction rushed as fast as possible."

*Newport, R. I. Redwood L. and Athenaeum.* (171st rpt.—year ending Aug. 14, 1901.) Added 440 by purchase, 625 by gift; total 48,696. Issued, home use 17,886 (fict. 68%).

The total no. of v. in the library, as given, includes a considerable number of volumes, chiefly fiction, which have been worn out and permanently removed from the shelves. Besides this, the library has been suffering from theft to a remarkable degree. Most of the losses occur from the stack room, which is open in summer to tourists and visitors as well as to subscribers. Librarian Bliss recommends the complete exclusion of strangers from the stack room except when accompanied by a "proprietor," or subscriber. The extent of losses cannot be determined, owing to incompleteness of shelf list, work on which has been discontinued because of lack of funds.

More stack room is urgently needed, the rapid accumulation of books having forced an overflow of fiction into the reading and delivery rooms, and left no space for new government publications, except on the floor.

*Oakland, Cal. Carnegie P. L.* As a continuation of their former work in the library cause—in providing a site for the new Car-

negie building—the members of the Ebell Society have assumed the obligation of equipping the children's room in the library building. The society is one of the leading women's clubs of Oakland.

*Ohio State L., Columbus.* (55th rpt.—year ending Nov. 15, 1900.) Added 6809, of which 4642 were additions to the travelling library department; total 68,750. During the year 711 travelling libraries were sent out, of which 252 went to schools, 179 to study clubs, and 125 to women's clubs. "The interest manifested in library extension throughout the state indicates accelerated growth and rapidly increasing demand for the help that, under the existing law, the state stands pledged to give." More room for the state library and for commission work is urgently needed. The list of accessions for the year is appended.

An important and permanently valuable feature of the report is the appendix, devoted to "list of newspapers and periodicals in Ohio State Library, other libraries of the state, and list of Ohio newspapers in the Library of Congress." This is practically co-operative work, the list for each library being given separately and compiled by the librarian of the special collection. The immediate criticism that suggests itself is the greater advantage of a single list, giving indication of the various libraries in which the material recorded may be found; but its preparation would, of course, have entailed much more expenditure of time and labor in compilation.

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Carnegie L.* The library Bulletin for October contains an interesting report by Meredyth Woodward on the work done in supplying books to children at the summer playgrounds. This was begun as an experiment three years ago, and was continued this summer as a part of the work done by the children's department of the library. "During the initial summer five playgrounds were supplied, the total circulation being about 1600. Last year the needs of seven playgrounds were met, with a result of 1833 in circulation, while the present year nine playgrounds have given a circulation of 3637 volumes, and this during one day in each of six weeks." This day was set apart as "library day," and as many as 117 volumes have been issued in a single playground on that day.

"In these miniature libraries not only do the children become familiar with library regulations, but more judicious and intelligent in the selection of books. At first they choose a book because it has an attractive cover, large print, 'lots of talk' (conversation), or because it is small and soon read. Later they select a book because the title tells of interesting subject-matter, or because a playmate has recommended it as 'grand,' a 'dandy,' or 'a peach.' A popular book often has as high as 10 or 15 reserves on it. Nor are these ab-

sorbing books always fiction. The statistics show that stories of travel, lives of great men, and books on natural history were fully as popular as the fiction. The fiction per cent. of last year was reduced from 60 per cent. to 52 per cent. this year.

"On the whole we feel well pleased with the season's work, although, as is natural, the work done by the two new branches was not so successful as that elsewhere, owing to the fact that the work was new to the district." As a result of previous work in another district 52 children from one playground are recorded as having taken out library cards. "The children are better trained in library usages, and more intelligent as to what they want, often counting from one year to the next upon getting a certain book. Out of this enthusiasm there naturally result the home library groups and clubs which furnish books during the winter."

*Saco, Me.* On Oct. 23 the trustees of Thornton Academy accepted the plans for a library building, to be erected as a memorial to the late Col. C. C. G. Thornton. The new structure will be erected on the academy campus near the main building, and will cost from \$20,000 to \$25,000.

This new building will be a gift from Mrs. Annie C. Thornton, of Magnolia, Mass., widow of the late Col. Thornton, and her daughter, Miss Mary C. Thornton. The work of construction will be commenced early in the spring, and it is hoped it will be ready for occupancy by next September.

*St. Joseph (Mo.) F. P. L.* (11th rpt.—year ending April 30, 1901.) Added 2146; total 20,088. Issued, home use, 103,274 (fict. 79.6%). Cards in use 4665, of which 43 are teachers' cards.

The record of a busy year shows increased activity in all departments and a steady preparation for removal to the new building, to be finished, it is hoped, this fall. Work with the schools has included reading lists prepared for class-rooms and greater latitude given in the number of books issued to teachers for school use. In several instances selected libraries of from 60 to 100 volumes have been placed in city and suburban schools.

The "duplicate collection" of popular novels, numbering 78 books and costing \$77.90, has earned \$92.55; but the reduction of charge from 10 cents to 5 cents, recently adopted, will in future undoubtedly eat up the profits.

In the cataloging department the revision of the card catalog has been about completed as well as a new shelf-list made for the reference room. Two additional delivery stations have been established, at one of which, the Wesley M. E. Church reading-room, a collection of 100 books has also been placed. In the line of library publications, the second biennial supplement to the finding list has been compiled from the quarterly bulletins of two

years, and four bulletins of additions have appeared as well as a second edition to the first supplement of the finding list, and selected lists of popular fiction.

Probably the most important event of the year has been Mr. Carnegie's donation of \$25,000 for a branch library in South St. Joseph, followed by a gift of land from South St. Joseph Town Co. and the guarantee of support from the city tax list.

*San Jose (Cal.) Carnegie L.* Plans for the \$50,000 Carnegie library building were adopted on Nov. 4.

*Sedalia (Mo.) P. L.* (6th rpt.—year ending April 30, 1901.) Added 178; total 4027. Issued 37,092 (fict. 761%; juv. 149%). New cards issued 1867. Receipts \$4602.94; expenses \$4308.47.

This is a readable and interesting report, giving details of a reorganization so complete as to seem like the organization of a new library. When the librarian, Miss Faith E. Smith, assumed her new duties last November she found everything in dire confusion, and the necessity staring her in the face of getting the library into working order before its removal into the Carnegie building. One by one the books were stamped, prepared for the shelves, and mended, if necessary, then accessioned, and, lastly, classified according to the Dewey system, numbered, shelf-listed, and cataloged, cards being written on the Hammond typewriter. The cards were then arranged in three files, under author, subject and title. During the six months preceding the report 2035 books were thus treated, and it is expected that the whole library will be cataloged within the year. Aside from this work, a loan system has been adopted; periodicals have been put into usable condition, and plans prepared for work with the schools as soon as the facilities of the new building make it possible. It is also under consideration to adopt the two-book system, hoping thereby to increase the circulation. It is perhaps only just to explain that the large expenses preparatory to moving into the Carnegie building have much curtailed the purchase of new books, which in turn has decreased the circulation.

The report of the president of the board tells of the preliminary arrangements for the \$50,000 building offered by Mr. Carnegie; of the architects chosen and of their plans; and of the progress of the work. Accompanying the report is a neat little book bound in stiff blue card board, which contains "The by-laws and rules of the Sedalia Public Library; together with the ordinances of the city and statutes relating to public libraries."

*South Norwalk (Ct.) P. L.* The town of Norwalk celebrated its 250th anniversary in September, and the Public Library had an exhibition of Norwalk literature, some of which

was old and rare; and a collection of photographs and prints of Norwalk scenes was hung in the reading-room. It was the first attempt at making a Norwalk bibliography.

On Oct. 15 Miss Jennette Mathewson presented 100 new juvenile books to the library in memory of her little brother, Edwin H. Mathewson, Jr. A neat book-plate in each volume states the source of the gift.

*Springfield (Mass.) City L. Assoc.* (40th rpt.—year ending May 7, 191.) Added 6071; total 121,162. Circulation 213,553 (adult and juv. fict. 61.8%); of these 32,884 v. were issued through schools and branches. It is not stated whether the total circulation figures include books drawn for library use as well as home use, and no specific statistics of reference use are given. "The use per capita of books from the library was 3.3, a ratio not equalled it would seem by any city in the country of the same or greater population, save Somerville, Mass., and Los Angeles, Cal. Nearly one person in every three in the city is a library cardholder."

A new registration of borrowers was begun in July, 1897. "Of 18,000 cardholders nearly 6000 are children. Of all books lent, those for children constitute about one-third. The total number of books for young people now in the library is 7270, or six per cent. of the whole collection." Books have been sent during the year to 21 school buildings, to engine houses, street railway employees' stations, Sunday-schools, and similar places. In the selection of fiction reliance is placed, as in the previous year, upon the verdict of volunteer readers, and offers of assistance in this direction, for fiction or other books, are welcome. In adult fiction there were purchased toto volumes, including the works of 49 new writers and 144 different new titles.

The "home delivery" system, begun in April is described. The plan has met with general approval, and "all indications point to its success and continuance, though possibly at a slightly increased charge. One of the very encouraging features of the plan is found in the fact that of the 160 who asked for this home delivery, 80 had never before made use of the library and about 25 had not used their cards for many months and in some cases years." Work with the children receives special attention, and the plans for encouraging "vacation reading," and reference use of books are noted. The need of more space in the children's department is urgently felt.

An important feature of the library's collections is the D. A. Wells Economic Library, for which the D. A. Wells bequest of \$90,000 makes provision. This brings an income of about \$3000 a year, half of which must be expended for "books or other publications on economics, fiscal or social science subjects" for the Wells collection. A brief historical sketch of the library is included, and the

report touches upon other phases of library activity. It deserves to be read in full.

*Syracuse (N. Y.) University.* The college year opened on Sept. 15 with 10 seniors and 14 juniors regularly registered in the course of library economy, conducted by Mrs. H. O. Sibley. This course has existed since 1892, when the librarian, Dr. H. O. Sibley, was appointed instructor in library economy. In June, 1901, he was made professor of library economy. From 1892 to 1896 special instruction was given to some students pursuing other courses in the university. In September, 1896, the first student entered regularly for a two years' library course.

*University of Montana, Missouri.* J. F. Davies, who was engaged by the university authorities as expert librarian, to catalog and classify the collection, has submitted an interesting report of his ten months work. This included shelving, classifying, accessioning, cataloging, indexing, shelf listing, etc. In all about 4000 v. were classified and cataloged, of which some 3200 had been already accessioned. The Dewey system was followed, with a few modifications, and much analytical work was done for important sets and extended works. In connection with this work of reorganization, Mr. Davies conducted a class in library economy and bibliography during the second semester. "Thirteen students, 12 being regular college students and one a special, began this course and nine completed it in a satisfactory manner. The course continued for four months and consisted regularly of one recitation, one lecture and five hours of laboratory work each week. The text-books used were Cutter's rules and the Abridged decimal classification. The cards written by the class in their laboratory work were retained for use in the card catalog. The main purpose of this course was to enable the members of the class to learn the use of libraries and to become acquainted with the principles that underlie the selection of books in connection with their studies and their future needs rather than to fit them for actual library work, though this latter purpose was incidentally observed."

*Vineland (N. J.) P. L.* The newly organized public library was opened Oct. 1 in its rooms in the city hall. The library was established mainly through the work of the local women's club, and its nucleus was the collection of the Vineland Library Association, which was transferred to city control. About 3000 v. are on the shelves.

*Virginia State L., Richmond.* A plan is now under consideration by the state educational committee to bring the state library under the control of the board of education; to utilize the accumulated \$12,000 that stands to-day to the credit of the library, and to divorce the office of librarian and other library positions from politics.

*Watertown (Mass.) F. P. L.* (33d rpt.) Added 857; total 26,400. Issued, home use, 36,430 (fict. and juv. 24,453); lib. use 4656. New cards 434; total cards in use 8548.

This has been a fortunate year in the library annals, including the installation of new stacks that will more than double its book capacity; the completion of the Hunnewell reading-room, and arrangements made for the children's room. All this has involved much arduous work on the part of the staff, including a reclassification of the whole library, on which a good beginning has been made. New finding lists of biography, history, geography and travel are now ready for printing. It is also noted that the printed catalog cards to be issued by the Library of Congress will render welcome assistance in the cataloging department, allowing the staff to "give more personal attention and assistance to . . . readers." There is a gratifying increase in the number of cards issued, partly due, no doubt, to the removal of age limit for children. Home use of books has also increased, with a decrease in reference use, accounted for, however, by the confusion in the building incident upon the many alterations. The Art Club exhibits have been fewer in number simply because of the lack of space to show pictures.

Appended to the report is the "10th supplement to the catalog of 1881," containing most of the additions of the last year.

*Watertown (N. Y.) P. L.* Plans for the Flower Memorial Library building were accepted in August, the successful designs being those of Lansing, Orchard & Joralemon, of Watertown.

*Westfield (Mass.) Athenaeum L.* The library opened a training class on Nov. 1. Preliminary examinations were held to test the fitness of applicants, and the entrance requirements include an agreement to give an average of 36 hours a week to the library service for three months. This probationary service is to be followed by six months' apprentice service, averaging 42 hours a week, making the full course one of nine months from the date of entering. A probationer will devote six hours a week out of the 36, and an apprentice will devote 12 hours a week out of the 42 to private study of library economy, history, literature or language, under the direction of the library. There will be daily class meetings, at which subjects relating to library economy will be discussed.

*Wilmington (Del.) Institute F. L.* The news of the extensive mutilation of books in the library has already been noted in these columns. John H. Rollo, who is accused of the crime, has been captured in Reading, Pa., and brought to Wilmington. His counsel waived examination, but in default of \$1000 bail he was committed to New Castle county

jail awaiting the November term of court. A rough estimate of the cost to replace the books stolen and mutilated is placed at least \$2500. Mr. Bowerman, the librarian, is said to be in possession of complete and convincing evidence of the guilt of Rollo. There seems no doubt of his conviction and punishment on the double charge of larceny and the mutilation of library property.

#### FOREIGN.

*Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris.* According to the *Athenaeum* the Bibliothèque Nationale has decided to keep only about 2000 of the 30,000 pamphlets, etc., on the French Revolution which the trustees of the British Museum handed over to it some time ago. Those which have not been retained were duplicates, and have been placed in the keeping of the Bibliothèque Historique de la Ville de Paris at the Musée Carnavalet, of which M. Gérard is the librarian. This residue fills 30 large cases, and before this sudden influx of 28,000 items can be conveniently stored away a special money grant will have to be made.

*Leeds (Eng.) P. F. Ls.* (31st rpt.—year ending March 25, 1901.) During the year, 12,675 volumes worn out, obsolete or otherwise useless, were removed, so that even with additions and replacements the total number of volumes in the libraries is only 200,244, as against 203,481 last year. This total is distributed as follows: Reference library 63,042 (incr. 3036 over last year); central library 42,460 (decr. 7217); branch libraries 94,742 (incr. 942). There were 126,159 v. consulted in the reference library; 360,365 issued from the central library and 450,327 issued from branch libraries; the total use in all departments being 936,851 as against 844,172 of the previous year. The number of card-holders has increased to 28,147.

The reference library is being reclassified according to the Dewey system and a catalog is under way. Five branch library buildings were planned for or in process of erection and two day branch libraries opened, making the complete library organization at the time of this report as follows: Central library (reference dept., lending dept. and newsroom); seven day branch libraries, 15 evening branch libraries and 23 juvenile branch libraries.

*Sydney, N. S. W. P. L. of New South Wales.* (30th rpt.—1900.) Added 6009; total 149,840. Issued, home use 106,039 (fict. 42,3); attendance in ref. dept. 185,059, an increase of 1299 over that of previous year. Total borrowers 8311, a decrease since last year, largely accounted for, however, by the outbreak of bubonic plague in the city, when one of the officers of the lending library was attacked.

The record of the year seems chiefly notable in what has been accomplished in the cataloging department. Aside from current work,

a subject index has been completed for the 80,000 books received in the reference library during the years 1869-1895, which, added to the current supplement, 1896-1900, gives a complete subject index of the reference department. It is earnestly urged that funds for printing this index be now provided. Various supplementary catalogs of the lending branch for the years 1886-1898 have been combined and a subject index to the 16,000 volumes of this branch also compiled, the government printing office having undertaken the printing of the volume. The recent installation of the Chivers' Indicator is also noted and the consequent necessary renumbering of the whole collection in the lending library. Outside energy of the year is shown in the further extension of the travelling library scheme and "there is abundant evidence that this branch of the trustees' work is highly appreciated by country students, and is productive of good educational results." Great stress is laid upon the necessity for increased appropriations as well as for enlarged quarters in order to adequately meet the demands of the public. A course of lectures on "Hamlet," given in the library in connection with the university extension movement, proved one of the pleasantest events of the year.

#### Gifts and Bequests.

*Bolton, Mass.* On Nov. 5 it was announced in town meeting that a gift of \$10,000 for a public library building had been made to the town by Ann Eliza Whitney, of Lancaster, formerly of Bolton, in the name of her deceased sister, Emma Whitney. The offer has been accepted. The conditions are that the town furnish a central site and put in the foundation of the building; that a memorial tablet be placed in the building; and that the town pay Miss Whitney the interest of \$3000 so long as she lives.

*Chicago P. L.* Mrs. T. B. Blackstone has offered to the Chicago Public Library board to erect and equip a \$100,000 library building for the Chicago suburb, Hyde Park. Mrs. Blackstone is the widow of the late T. B. Blackstone, founder of the Blackstone Memorial Library of Branford, Ct. The library is to be known as the T. B. Blackstone Memorial Branch Library.

*Horse Cave, Ky.* On Nov. 5 a library of 500 selected volumes was presented to Horse Cave School, the gift of Miss Helen Gould.

*Middleboro, Mass.* By the will of the late Thomas S. Peirce, of Middleboro, the sum of \$50,000 is left to that town for the erection of a public library building, and an additional \$50,000 is bequeathed for books and equipment.

*Randolph (Vt.) P. L.* Col. R. J. Kimball, of Randolph, has offered to give \$10,000 for a new library building, provided the town will furnish a site without drawing upon the present library fund. There is a fund of about \$4000, the bequest of Mrs. S. J. Crocker, also available for library purposes.

*University of Toronto L., Toronto.* The library has received a gift of \$10,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Goldwin Smith. No conditions are attached to the gift.

*Westerly, R. I.* By the will of the late Mrs. Harriet Wilcox, of Brooklyn, who died on Aug. 21, the sum of \$150,000 is left in trust to the Westerly (R. I.) Memorial and Library Association, the income to be used in maintaining the building, library, and adjoining park.

*Whitewater, Wis.* By the will of the late Miss Flavia White, of St. Paul, the city of Whitewater receives \$17,000 for a public library building.

#### Carnegie library gifts.

The following recent gifts for library buildings have been made by Andrew Carnegie:

*Austin, Minn.* Oct. 17. \$12,000. Accepted Nov. 4.

*Canandaigua, N. Y.* Nov. 4. \$10,000.

*Carrollton, Ill.* Oct. 18. \$10,000.

*Charleston, Ill.* Oct. 30. \$18,000; yearly guarantee of \$1000 required. Accepted.

*Charlotte, N. C.* Oct. 13. \$5000 additional, making total gift of \$25,000.

*Dundee, Scotl.* Oct. 21. £37,000 for branch libraries.

*Elwood, Ind.* Oct. 18. \$25,000.

*Glasgow, Scotl.* Kinning Park. Oct. 29. £5000.

*Green Bay, Wis.* Oct. 14. \$5000 additional, making a total gift of \$25,000.

*Guthrie, O. T.* \$20,000. Accepted by city council.

*Hawarden, Ia.* Oct. 21. \$5000; the \$400 yearly guarantee required had been previously secured through tax levy, by popular vote.

*Islip, N. Y.* Oct. 23. \$10,000.

*Los Gatos, Cal.* Oct. 20. \$10,000.

*Nashville, Tenn.* Oct. 18. \$100,000.

*Neenah, Wis.* Oct. 17. \$10,000.

The sum of \$21,980 has been raised by public subscription to add to Mr. Carnegie's gift, as a public library fund.

*Paducah, Ky.* Oct. 28. \$35,000.

The city council has agreed to furnish the \$3500 yearly appropriation required.

*Revere, Mass.* Oct. 18. \$20,000.

*San Juan, Porto Rico.* Oct. 24. \$100,000. City appropriation of \$6000 annually required, "supplemented by action on the part of the insular legislature, bringing the total up to \$8000 or \$9000."

*Waterford, Ire.* Oct. 7. £5000.

#### Librarians.

*BACON, Charles A.*, librarian of Beloit College, died at his home in Beloit, Wis., on Nov. 6. Mr. Bacon was a native of Vermont, and was widely known for his astronomical researches.

*BEARDSLEY, Ira L.*, librarian of the Cleveland (O.) Public Library from 1875 to 1884, died at St. Augustine, Fla., on Nov. 2, aged 82 years. During recent years Mr. Beardsley had been connected with the Standard Oil Company.

*BRONSON, James M.*, for nearly 40 years librarian of the Leominster (Mass.) Public Library, has resigned that office.

*BURNET, Henry Duncan*, of the New York State Library School, 1898-99, has been appointed head cataloger in the University of Missouri Library.

*CAPEN, Edward*, librarian emeritus of the Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library, and the first librarian of the Boston Public Library, died suddenly at his home in Haverhill on his 80th birthday, Oct. 20. Mr. Capen had spent the day before at the library, engaged in his usual duties, and his death came as an unexpected shock to his friends and associates; it was due to heart failure. Edward Capen was born in Dorchester, Oct. 20, 1821, the third son of Rev. Lemuel and Mary (Hunting) Capen. His ancestry reaches back in Dorchester to 1630. In his early youth his family removed to South Boston, where he was graduated from the Boston Latin School, with the Franklin medal, in 1838. He entered Harvard, graduating in the class of 1842, and then attended Cambridge Divinity School, class of 1845. He served for one year as minister of the Unitarian Society, at Westford, Mass., but after that his work in the ministry met with little success, owing to his sympathy with the views of Theodore Parker, at that time looked upon askance in the ministry of his denomination. In October, 1847, he secured a position with Dr. John Collins Warren as private secretary, and in 1849 his name was registered as a student at Harvard Medical School. He attended the lectures of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes in anatomy and Prof. John W. Webster in chemistry. In 1850 he accompanied Dr. Warren, who was then president of the American Medical Association, to attend its annual meeting at Cincinnati, and in 1851, the year of the first great exposition, he went to London and Paris with him. In January, 1852, he secured the position of secretary of the school committee of Boston. The public library was then open in its quarters on Mason street, and Mr. Capen was appointed librarian on May 12, 1852. Under the direction of the trustees he prepared its first catalog and its first six reports to the Boston city council. The building on Boylston street was soon after commenced, under the direction

of a commission of which Robert C. Winthrop was chairman and Mr. Capen secretary. This building was dedicated in 1858 and the library removed to it. Charles C. Jewett was made superintendent, but for 22 years Mr. Capen continued to hold the office of librarian, and gave himself with earnestness and devotion to the service of the library. In November, 1874, he was elected librarian of the Haverhill Public Library, a post which he held until his retirement as librarian emeritus in October, 1899, when he was succeeded by John Grant Moulton, of Brockton. Mr. Capen was a life member of the American Library Association. He is survived by a wife and one daughter.

CASAMAJOR, Miss Mary, of the New York State Library School, 1899-1900, has been engaged to catalog and organize the Asbury Park (N. J.) Public Library.

GREEN, Miss Lillian P., of the New York State Library School, 1900-1901, has been appointed assistant in the Leland Stanford Jr. University Library.

RANCK-BLACKBURN. Mr. Samuel Haverstick Ranck, assistant librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore, was married on Oct. 15 to Miss Judith Anne Blackburn, of Baltimore.

RODGERS, Miss Jane, of the New York State Library School, 1900-1901, has been appointed librarian of the Washburn College Library, Topeka, Kansas.

SHARP, Miss Katharine Lucinda, B.L.S., New York State Library School, class of '92, has been appointed vice-president of the National Association of Collegiate Alumnae.

THOMSON, Miss Frances Danner, Pratt Institute Free Library, class of 1900, has resigned her position in the library of the Y. W. C. A., New York, to accept the librarianship of the Mount Vernon (N. Y.) Public Library.

TRUBE, Miss Bertha O., Pratt Institute Library School, classes 1900 and '01, has been appointed acting librarian of the Woman's Institute, Yonkers, N. Y.

WELBORN, Judge Carlton J., has been appointed state librarian of Georgia, succeeding James E. Brown, whose term of office expired Oct. 31. Judge Welborn served a term as state librarian over 40 years ago.

WINDEYER, Miss Margaret, graduate of the New York Library School, class of 1899, has been appointed library assistant in the Public Library of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. Miss Windeyer and two other women, just added to the staff, are the first women ever employed in an Australian library.

### Cataloging and Classification.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS. Catalogue of the library, June, 1900; prepared by the secretary under the direction of the Library Committee. New York, [1901.] 704 p. 8°.

This catalog, compiled by Charles Warren Hunt, will be interesting and useful to all who have to deal with the literature of engineering and its allied sciences. It represents the classified index of the comprehensive card catalog (author, subject, and classified index) for the collection of the American Society of Civil Engineers, begun in April, 1898, and completed in June, 1900. The classification is devised to cover the various branches of engineering science, and includes 24 main divisions, with letter notation. Entries are fully given with place, date, number of volumes, size, etc. An alphabetical subject index, appended, aids consultation of the catalog.

The BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for October contains an author list of fiction in the Italian language contained in the library. There are over 350 author entries. In the November issue is a title list of the Italian fiction, and a list of translations from the Italian in English, French and German, including also one title in Serbo-Croatian.

DETROIT (Mich.) P. L. Netherlands: books and articles in the Detroit Public Library (periodical references not included), 1901. 29 p. nar. O.

A classed list, printed on heavy manila paper.

The FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for November contains a good short reference list on Shakespeare, covering general works, seven of the plays, and the poems, songs and sonnets.

HACKENSACK (N. J.) JOHNSON P. L. Finding list. 1901. 51 p. Q.

The first finding list of this new library is well printed and convenient in form, entry being made under author only, and books arranged in classes according to the D. C., preceded by fiction list and followed by juvenile books. The character of the books included seems essentially up to date, though older standard authors are also represented.

ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL L., Springfield. Alphabetic catalog of books, manuscripts, maps, pictures and curios: authors, titles and subjects, 1900; comp. under direction of the board of trustees of the library, by the librarian, Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber. Springfield, 1900. 363 p. O.  
A dictionary catalog, two columns to the

page, with full entries, giving place of publication, date and size. Technically the work might have been improved in details of punctuation, typography, etc., and it shows some crudities in arrangement. Title entries are often superfluous, as in Brooks' "Life and death of Abraham Lincoln," "Life and times of David Zeisberger," by De Schweinitz, and other books which appear with full title entry under "Life" as well as under author and subject. There is, however, much interesting and useful material in the catalog—notably the record of Illinois publications and of the library's valuable collection of Lincolniana.

The KANSAS CITY (Mo.) P. L. Quarterly for October is mainly devoted to the scientific books and periodicals contained in the library. A list of the former covers 35 pages, in double column, and is arranged in one alphabet, by authors and inverted title or subject word.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, *Division of Maps and Charts*. A list of works relating to cartography; by P. Lee Phillips, F.R.G.S., chief of Division of Maps and Charts. (Reprinted from A list of maps of America, in the Library of Congress.) Washington: Gov. Print. Office, 1901. 90 p. 1. 8°.

About 1000 titles, alphabetically arranged.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L., Boston. Catalogue of the laws of foreign countries; prep. by Ellen M. Sawyer, principal assistant. Boston, Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers, 1901. 75 p. interleaved, O.

Following a short general division of Codes and collections, the laws recorded are arranged alphabetically by names of countries. A thorough and careful catalog, well printed, and interleaved with writing paper for notes. PHILADELPHIA F. L. Bulletin, no. 3: indexes to the first lines and to the subjects of the poems of Robert Herrick; prep. under the direction of John Thomson. August, 1901. 98 p. Q.

A careful and handsomely printed piece of work. The index to first lines covers 36 pages; that to subjects 44 pages in double columns; and an excellent glossary fills eight double-column pages. The references are made throughout to the two-volume edition of Herrick, published by Little, Brown & Co., in their set of "British poets," to which the index will prove a most valuable supplement. Much of the original work upon it was done by Richard E. Wilson, and Mr. John Ashurst has given careful revision and prepared the glossary.

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for October contains five reading lists, dealing with Theodore Roosevelt, Sir Walter Besant, Daniel Webster, Trusts, and Edinburgh.

#### FULL NAMES.

*The following are supplied by Catalogue Division, Library of Congress.*

- Arnold, Joseph Alfred (Arnold's guide for business corporations in the state of New York . . .);
- Barry, James Patrick (Fidistoria);
- Beeson, Harvey Childs (Beeson's marine directory . . .);
- Brown, Levant Frederick (Prince Harold);
- Goodspeed, Frank Lincoln (Palestine: a fifth gospel);
- Graham, Sarah Melissa Cary Downing, [Mrs. John Ellsworth Graham, *pseud.*] (The Toltec savior . . .);
- Harris, Joanie Orlando (Colonel Johnson of Johnson's Corners);
- Holmes, Ellis Proctor (Oaky, the son of his dad . . .);
- Maire, Frederick (The modern wood finisher . . .);
- Miller, George Washington (Field book of practical mineralogy);
- Minor, Raleigh Colston (Conflict of laws; or, private international law);
- Morton, Henrietta Josephine (Neal) ["Mrs. J. H. Morton"] (Filled hands . . .);
- Norcross, Frank Wayland (A history of the New York swamp);
- Oughton, Charles Martin (Crazes, credulities and Christian science);
- Page, Lorena Maybelle (Legendary lore of Mackinac . . .);
- Peters, Fredus Nelson (Modern chemistry);
- Politzer, Anthony Philip (The rabbi of Liszka and the possibilities of Christian science in the twentieth century . . .);
- Pratt, William Albert (The gold fields of Cape Nome . . .);
- Prescott, Albert Benjamin, and Johnson, Otis Coe (Qualitative chemical analysis . . .);
- Putnam, Homer Manley, and Smith, Bertram Garner (1000 questions in review);
- Rhines, Fayette Wendel (Rhines' progression system for playing the races successfully);
- Rich, Alonzo Berry (Our new neighbor, the mosquito . . .);
- Ripley, Nelson Benedict (Cordelia, and other poems);
- Rye, Amy Louisa, ["Mrs. Francis Rye"] (The beloved Son);
- Sabin, Oliver Corwin (Christology, science of health and happiness . . .);
- Sachse, Helena Viola ["Mrs. Samuel Schmucker Sadler"] (How to cook for the sick and convalescent);
- Simkins, Joshua Dean (Early history of Auglaize county);
- Smith, Ella Gertrude (A manual of the treatment of disease by electricity and vital magnetism);
- Smith, Samuel Harper (Circumvented; or, success despite opposition . . .);
- Speer, Robert Elliott (Presbyterian foreign missions . . .);
- Stebbins, John Wesley (The half-century history of Rebekah odd fellowship of the I. O. O. F. . . .);

Stein, John Frederick (*German exercises*); Stephens, Dan Vorhees (*Silas Cobb; a story of supervision*); Stevens, Edward Oliver (*The Peguan hymnal*); Stine, Wilbur Morris (*Photometrical measurements*); Stone, George Hapgood (*The glacial gravels of Maine and their associated deposits*); Symonds, Henry Clay (*Abstract of the elements of English grammar arranged in tabular form*); True, Alfred Charles, and Clark, Vinton Albert (*The agricultural experiment stations in the United States*); Van Bergen, Robert (*A boy of old Japan*); Vane, Isabella Cornelia de (*Doctor Carrington . . .*); Walker, Clarence Eugene (*Speed and legibility: practical hints to students and writers of Pitman phonography*); Walsh, George Ethelbert (*The mysterious burglar*); Walton, Joseph Solomon (*Conrad Weiser and the Indian policy of colonial Pennsylvania*); Williams, William George (*Baptism*); Willson, Robert Wheeler (*Laboratory astronomy*); Wilson, William Frank (*Wilson's complete digest of Oklahoma . . .*); Winslow, Isaac Oscar (*The natural arithmetic*); Woodbridge, Samuel Isett, tr. (*China's only hope, by Chang Chih-Tung*); Wright, Carroll Davidson, and Hunt, William Chamberlin (*The history and growth of the United States census*).

### Bibliography.

**BAGPIPE.** Manson, W. L. *The Highland bagpipe: its history, literature, and music; with some account of the traditions, superstitions and anecdotes relating to the instrument and its tunes.* Paisley, Gardner, 1901. Includes a bibliography of bagpipe music; reviewed in *Athenaeum*, Sept. 28.

**DIBBIN.** Charles, Dibdin, E. Rimbault. *A bibliographical account of the works of Charles Dibdin.* (*In Notes and Queries*, Sept. 7; Oct. 5, 9th series, 8:191-193, 279-281.)

**DIONYSIUS of Halicarnassus.** *The three literary letters: the Greek text edited with English translation, notes, etc., by W. Rhys Roberts.* Cambridge, University Press, 1901. 13+232 p. 8°.

Contains a 12-page annotated bibliography of the *scripta rhetorica*.

**DRUMMOND.** Henry, Lennox, Cuthbert. *The practical life work of Henry Drummond:* with an introd. by Hamilton W. Mabie.

New York, James Pott & Co., 1901. 22+244 p. 12°, net, \$1.

Contains 9 pages of classified and annotated notes for a bibliography.

**EDUCATION.** Wyer, J. I. *Recent educational bibliography.* (*In The School Review*, Oct., 1901, 9:534-542.)

A classified and annotated account. 22 titles of educational bibliography are described.

**ENGLAND.** Cheyney, Edward P. *An introduction to the industrial and social history of England.* New York, Macmillan Co., 1901. 10+317 p. 12°, net, \$1.40.

Each chapter is followed by a brief annotated bibliography.

**ENTOMOLOGY.** Howard, Leland O. *The insect book: a popular account of the bees, wasps, ants, grasshoppers, flies and other North American insects, exclusive of the butterflies, moths and beetles, with full life histories, tables and bibliographies.* New York: Doubleday, Page & Co., 1901. 27+429 p. 4°, net, \$3.

The classified and annotated bibliographies include nearly 500 titles.

**GENEALOGY.** Phillimore, W. P. W. *Pedigree work: a handbook for the genealogist; with a new date book, 1066 to 1900.* London, Phillimore & Co., 1900. 73 p. 8°.

A very useful little guide book telling how to go about getting up a pedigree, with an account of where to look for certain data. Although designed especially for readers in England it is of use in every public library.

**HANDEL.** George Frederick. Williams, C. F. Abdy. Handel. (*The master musicians.*) London, J. M. Dent & Co., 1901. 11+268 p. 12°.

Contains a 6-page bibliography.

**MISSIONS.** Barnes, Lemuel Call. *Two thousand years of missions before Carey: based upon and embodying many of the earliest extant accounts.* Chicago: Christian Culture Press, 1901. 17+504 p. 12°, net, \$1.50. Contains a valuable selected bibliography of 31 pages, annotated and classified.

**NEW YORK City.** Ullmann, Albert. *A landmark history of New York, also the origin of street names and a bibliography.* New York, D. Appleton & Co., 1901. 8+285 p. 12°, \$1.50.

The annotated bibliography (13 pages) is arranged under the following headings: His-

tories, Descriptive and reminiscent works, Biographies, Fiction.

**Poor (The).** Mackay, Thomas. Public relief of the poor. London, John Murray, 1901. 7+214 p. 12°.

The English poor laws; contains a four-page selected bibliography.

**POULTRY.** Watson, George C. Farm poultry: a popular sketch of domestic fowls for the farmer and amateur. (The rural science series.) New York, The Macmillan Co., 1901. 10+341 p. 16°, net, \$1.25.

Contains a 3-page list of important poultry publications—books, pamphlets, and bulletins.

**ROME, Ancient.** Greenidge, A. H. J. Roman public life. (Handbooks of archaeology and antiquities.) New York, The Macmillan Co., 1901. 20+483 p. 12°, net, \$2.50.

Contains a useful classified bibliography of six pages.

**Saints.** Simpson, W. J. Sparrow. The minor festivals of the Anglican calendar. London, Rivington, 1901. 8+470 p. 12°.

Contains a five-page bibliography of the saints commemorated in the English calendar.

**SUNDAY SCHOOLS.** Brown, Mariana C. Sunday-school movements in America. New York, Fleming H. Revell Co., 1901. 269 p. 12°, \$1.25.

Pages 246-257 contain a bibliography of "such books and papers as contribute historical material." The method and arrangement are most unsatisfactory, and it is surprising to learn that the "study of this subject, which is here presented, was offered in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Faculty of Philosophy at Columbia University." For example the *Sunday School Times* is entered under that name with a reference to a single article on May 30, 1896, followed by "and other articles," without any reference.

**WESTMINSTER CONFESSION.** Warfield, Benjamin B. The printing of the Westminster confession. I: In Britain. (In *Presbyterian and Reformed Review*, Oct., 1901. 12:606-659.)

The brief history of the printing of the Westminster confession of faith (8 pages) is followed by notes toward a bibliography of the confession: I, British editions. There are 137 editions noted. The annotations are scholarly and extensive. The author ventures to hope that this list includes about half of the whole number of British editions. Seven-

eral editions printed in Australia and New Zealand are included.

**WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA:** a biographical dictionary of notable living men and women of the United States, 1901-1902; edited by John W. Leonard. Chicago: A. N. Marquis & Co., [1901.] 16+1304 p. 12°, \$2.75.

This volume is much fuller in bibliographical items than the edition which was published in 1899. By a very simple scheme the publisher of many books is indicated after the title in the sketch of the author.

#### INDEXES.

**HILL, Edwin A.** On a system of indexing chemical literature, adopted by the classification division of the U. S. Patent Office. (*To be continued.*) (In *Chemical News*, Oct. 25, 1901, 84:203-205.)

This article is from the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* and is most interesting. The index is made on the L. B. standard card no. 33 and the cards are arranged alphabetically, cards reading C, taking precedence of C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2</sub> of C<sub>3</sub>, etc. The system of the arrangement of the formulæ is governed by the following general principles:

1st. The number of C atoms in carbon compounds.

2d. The number of H atoms in carbon compounds.

3d. The alphabetical arrangements of the symbols of the remaining elements (including H in other than carbon compounds).

The following is Mr. Hill's general rule for indexing:

"Reject the water of crystallization, and rewrite the empirical formula in the alphabetical order of the chemical symbols, except that in carbon compounds write C first and H second; follow this rewritten formula with the constitutional formula, when given, adding the water of crystallization, if any, but arrange the titles alphabetically by the rewritten formula."

**VIAL, R. C.** Indexing railway maps and drawings. (In *Engineering News*, Sept. 5, 1901. 46:147-150.)

Describes the system used in the drafting room of the Chicago and Western Indiana R. R. The following are the heads described: Decimal outline, card index, method of indorsing and filing drawings, and indexing of survey notes. The method of filing is of particular interest to those who have maps under their care. A system of pasteboard tubes is used for large drawings which must be rolled. These are filed in cases with their ends projecting. They can thus be kept free from dust even in an office which is over the train shed of a terminal station.

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Guelph Dist. Normal & Agricultural College, Guelph,  
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Lincoln, Neb.  
Emporia, Kansas  
Corning, Kentucky  
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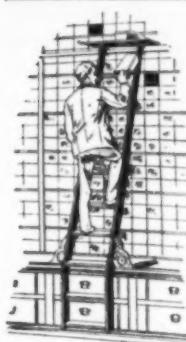
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